

POPE
UNVEILED

POPERY UNVEILED.

TO WHICH IS ANEXED A SHORT RECIT-
TAL OF THE
ORIGIN, DOCTRINES, PRECEPTS
AND EXAMPLES
OF THE
GREAT CHURCH MILITANT
AND TRIUMPHANT.

BY JEREMIAH ODEL,
Manchester, Vt.

“Behold, ye despisers, and wonder, and
perish : for I work a work in your days, a
work which ye shall in no wise believe,
though a man declare it unto you.”

Acts xiii. 41.

“The earth is given into the hand of the
wicked : he covereth the faces of the judges
thereof; if not, where, and who is he?”

Job ix. 24.

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TO THE READER.

CHRISTIAN READER,

MY motive in publishing this short recital of the origin of the Church Militant and Triumphant, was if possible, to unveil the horrid deceptions of Anti-Christ, and bring their doctrines, precepts and examples to light, that their diabolical works might be made manifest to the world, and thereby give light to them that set in darkness, and in the shadow of death.

The Reader will understand that the Church Militant and Triumphant, is considered to be the Church of Christ and Anti-Christ, the true Church and false Church.

The true Church, are the worshipers of the true God, and the false Church, are the worshipers of Anti-Christ; the same, represented in the scriptures as sheep and goats, wheat and tares, good and bad, vessels of

honor and vessels of dishonor, saints and sinners, righteous and unrighteous, the table of the Lord and table of devils, God and mammon, Adam and Christ, &c. &c.

As the true Church had saints for members of their church, so has Anti-Christ assumed the title of saint in his church; as the members of the true church were called the children of God, so has Anti-Christ denominated his members, the children of God; as God sent his apostles to preach the gospel to every creature, so Anti-Christ sends his missionaries; as the apostles were to baptize, so does Anti-Christ and his missionaries; and as Jesus forgave sins, so pretends Anti-Christ.

All of which deceptions, the most common readers are ignorant, and I thought it highly necessary that something of this nature should be published to the world; and as I have been much in the habit of contemplation on the subject of religion, from the age of twelve, it has been a mat-

ter of wonder and surprise, that the members of all the churches should denominate themselves the children of God, saints, beloved of the Father, &c. &c.

I kept saying, is such and such conduct the work of God? Little did I think they were members of the great church militant; and have been for sometime soliciting others, whom I esteemed far more capable and better qualified for the task, to undertake the publishing this work; but all to no purpose.

I soon found the ministers of our day were bound under certain restrictions, out of which they dare not labor, for fear of censure; and as he that knows nothing fears nothing, I was under the necessity of presenting it to the public myself, not fearing the wrath of kings; and hope this work may fall into the hands of some friend, that possesses able talents and leisure, who will without restraint, do this interesting subject justice.

I trust the reader will not be surprised, to hear me state, that most of the doctrinal ideas imbibed by people in general, are received from the pulpits of our militant churches, under the name of orthodoxy; which has formed various opinions in Christendom, has driven the world into distraction and disaffection, and is the hot bed of contention, and root of bitterness, which is the fruit of selfishness, pride, wrath, and envy, which are the elements of hell.

What will be the result of my little book time will prove, but I hope the reader will feel himself well paid for his time in reading it, as by reason of the apostatized doctrines of the whorish apostacy, the world has imbibed false notions of God and the scriptures, have set up false Gods, false Christs, consequently a false worship.

All our orthodox preachers dwell on good works and meritorious deeds for justification, of which this short recital will give a specimen.

I have taken much pains in quoting the scriptures which are in point to prove the original doctrines and precepts of the church militant and triumphant, have also quoted various authors and historians both Papist and Protestant; likewise the writings of the ancient fathers who were denominated saints, and many of our modern writers, and have used my endeavour to show how they symbolize to this day, and that protestantism and papacy are nearly allied.

It is said that Papacy was purchased of the devil by Pope Sylvester, 2d. and has been retailed out by Catholic doctors, and Protestant divines, as God's true religion.

I have also taken considerable pains in explaining words that are generally passed over by the poorest class of readers as unintelligible, for the literati (or learned) are apt to make use of high sounding words which pass with the unlearned without meaning; besides they write to please, and to be seen of men; they are ever endeavor-

ing to promote the popular doctrines of their own self importance, they delight to speak with tongues, and their sole aim is to darken rather than enlighten; thereby the common people are kept upon the rack.

It is my great desire, that the common class of readers should be informed of the shocking injustice, and horrid cruelties, of the pretended Holy Saint Office, and from that sink of corruption, called the Catholic Church, or divines, having received their canon (or church laws) which only stand in meats, drinks, divers washings, (or baptism,) and carnal ordinances, imposed on the world until the times of reformation.

Have we not reason at this day to bless God that we were unborn, at that day, when cruelty was considered holy and just?

I consider our present clergy, as inquisitors, without an inquisition, humming about, bemoaning the loss of their inquisitorial power.

Should this narrative be of use to the public, I shall be happy, in having performed my duty, and still more gratified, if my little treatise should be the means of opening the eyes of those who are hurried on by a sort of blind zeal; who think it meritorious in the sight of heaven, to persecute and anathematize all whose religious principles differ from theirs.

The reader is requested to remember, that persecutors were ever found in the church of Anti-Christ, now called the church militant; I hope therefore the free thinkers will hold them in suspicion; what is remarkable the greatest persecutor and calumniator stands highest in the list of heroes and canonized saints; and for ages has passed for the gospel of Jesus Christ, and has rendered divine revelation a subject of discredit to thousands, having thereby rejected the pure gospel of Jesus Christ.

I hope the reader will not esteem me too ironical in my miscellaneous remarks, as he will find them couch-

ed in much the same language as is found in sacred and profane history.

In this recital I thought it necessary to hint at the doctrines, precepts, and examples of the dumb church, commonly denominated free and accepted masons; and I conclude this mysterious order will not contend that their church is the true church, as they have all the aforementioned marks, viz. selfishness, pride, wrath and envy; and as it is difficult for a stranger to converse with a deaf and dumb man, so it is for any to converse with this church, unless they can do it by signs, which none can do except the elect.

It is the general doctrine of militant churches, that there are degrees of knowledge, and degrees of sin, degrees of righteousness, and degrees of punishment and misery; so it is with this church, and their degrees begin in this world, and from the knowledge derived from their secret retirement they pass from one degree of glory to another until they all arrive

to their grand lodge above, where their salvation is locked up in the secret archives of heaven.

This church is like a great heap of useless manure, not being spread abroad it does not make the world fruitful; yet no people are more fruitful in self-righteousness, and not a real christian is found among them; as a real belief in Jesus Christ constitutes the name, Christian; and this church as a people, deny Jesus Christ, and call him bastard, and I consider no man a christian except he be born again (or from above,) and as this rarely happens with the members of their church, so rarely is it that a christian is found among them.

He that is born again is said to be brought from nature's darkness to the marvelous light of the gospel, by knowledge and union with Jesus Christ; and every such happy soul will do all in his power to spread abroad and communicate this boon of heaven to every creature.

But these people can bring others into the new birth (if they apply) by putting a bandage over the eyes of the candidate, and taking it off suddenly, accompanied with a shock of terror. This they call bringing to light; and from such blasphemous and idolatrous practices they impiously affirm that every mason is a christian.

But how far they are from promulgating christianity, or spreading abroad their benign religion? What heaven-born children they are?

I have been instructed in their secret art for more than twenty-five years, and have passed many a lecture, and have never been repulsed or rejected, but acknowledged many times to be a brother before we got half through lecturing, and I have, and daily do suffer persecution from that satanic order for passing into their sanctum sanctorum. My life they have attempted more than once; but heaven is my protector.

Kind reader, do those people act

like true and meek christians? I do not esteem it my duty to disclose every minute thing or article, that passes among them, in this work, for that I intend to do hereafter if the Lord permit, but I think it necessary to recite just enough to convince every honest reader (although he may be a mason) that this church or assembly is not the church of Christ, or true church, but is a branch of Anti-Christ's church and limb of the devil, as their works do testify to a demonstration. Besides their members frequently absent themselves, and speak most pointedly against the corruption of this order.

Reader, is the Baptist the true church? No, in no wise, for at present they have all the aforementioned marks, to wit: selfishness, pride, wrath, and envy; but in former ages were harmless christians; yet their believing in John the Baptist could not constitute them christians: it is a belief in Jesus Christ that constitutes the name of christian: neither does water baptism constitute them

christians ; but the baptism of the Holy Ghost. It is therefore reasonable to suppose that the origin of the baptists is to be scanned from the Sabeans and partook of the doctrines of the Sabelians ; both of these sects were hereticks, and hereticks were christians at that day.

If their origin should be reckoned from John Baptist, they could not be considered christians, for water baptism is not christian baptism, for baptism of water was only a sign or token that one mightier than he was among them and should be manifest to Israel, see John 1. 31. and this same was to be baptized with the Holy Ghost ; therefore in this they cleave to the shadow instead of the substance, notwithstanding the substance was to increase, and the shadow decrease.

Therefore, kind reader, do not think it strange if I do not believe the Anabaptist to be the true church ; neither do I consider the standing order of Quakers the true church, nor Shakers, nor do I believe Jesus Christ

has made his second appearance thro' the medium of old Ann Lee : as the Lord is our righteousness, I cannot accept of the Universalist to be the true church, although they acknowledge the gospel of Jesus Christ to be all in all, as to the salvation of man, and are no murderers of christians for a difference of sentiments, yet selfishness, pride, wrath, and envy are found among them. It cannot be denied that the doctrine they preach is Godlike, and its origin is from God, if peace and good will to man was from God.

No selfishness, pride, wrath, or envy is preached by the universalist, but is seen in their conduct, and therefore cannot be the true church, but the origin of their doctrines is from God, for it is without partiality and hypocrisy, and is the good and perfect gift that came down from the father of light, in whom there is no shadow of turning, neither will it ever vary—James i. 1. I do not feel it my duty to point out any particular church, to be the true church, for that

cannot be done; as there is not a true church on earth.

I have had occasion to treat largely of the Calvinists, Lutherans, and Wesleyan Methodists: the Calvinists and Lutherans are closely allied to the church of Anti-Christ, more so than all the rest; the Methodist is closely allied to the church of England, and all are linked together like the Gordian Knot, and very mysteriously woven, that nothing but the sword of truth will ever cut it; and like a knot of worms they are so linked together and clenched in with the mother of harlots, that they will sooner die than break off from that good old mother and her beastly hierarchy.

It has not been my object to defend any particular doctrine, but my main object has been to represent the common orthodox doctrines and precepts as they appear to me, and as historians have represented them from the beginning.

I hope kind reader, you will not

condemn this work, if you should not find so soft language as you would wish, but wish you to remember it is much the language of their own historians, and for the truth of what I say, be kind enough to examine my quotations. I acknowledge the language is hard and severe, for their doctrine and conduct is hard and severe, and the same mete they have measured to others to them shall it be measured again. The language will offend none but those bigots that put on the coat, and such not only need it, but greatly deserve it.

What if you should find ideas contained in this work contrary to yours? It is no crime, and perhaps you may find them true, if you carefully and impartially examine the quotations. With impartiality it will be necessary to read it over and over, and search the quotations, both sacred and profane, and see whether the things be so as is stated, and if you find them not to be so, then you can from good authority say, the author is mistaken, and so pity his ignorance.

You must remember likewise, reader, that the author has as good a right to publish a treatise of this magnitude as the President of the United States, and perhaps might hit on as much truth in divinity:—As he would, as statesman, look too high for divinity, and fools too low; therefore, great characters do not always enjoy the most divinity. What a mean character the Saviour of the world was when in Judea among the scribes and pharisees? And what being ever possessed more divinity?

It is to be remembered that the most virtuous on earth have been the most scandalized and traduced by the tongue of common fame, and many times the best may be expected where the worst is said of another. Perhaps no work of God was ever more misrepresented by Anti-Christ and his ministers, than the gospel of Jesus Christ.

We have long been wearied with human creeds, confessions, and subtle arguments, written in defence of di-

vided and sub-divided parties, which for many ages has perplexed the human race, and in the end will leave us all destitute of salvation, after being imposed upon with false systems, said to be of divine authority for many ages, and it is a special call of God, to free ourselves of these pernicious, superstitious, and false doctrines of Anti-Christ: these facts are established by testimonies of their own historians.

Mesheim was a Lutheran Priest, of Gottengen, in Germany.

I wish the reader to understand that this publication is not expected to be a creed for any people whatever, but is intended only as a loud call to beware of the ministers of Anti-Christ, who have transformed themselves into the ministers of Christ, and none but cavilers will be carried away with their empty speculations.

I think this sufficient to satisfy every honest enquirer: the facts I have stated are confirmed by sacred and ecclesiastical history, the testimony

of living witnesses, and is self-evident to every honest heart.

I pray God to raise up able witnesses to give knowledge of the gospel to them that sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death ; and may God in his mercy grant you wisdom to read and search for yourselves, may he direct you and each individual in the search of truth which is now the judge of the world, and that he may make the whole world wise in his wisdom, holy in his holiness, righteous in his righteousness, and perfect in his perfection, is the desire and joyful hope of your friend and philanthropist,

THE AUTHOR.

POPERY UNVIELED.

Most Excellent and Worthy Friends,

I supposed nothing would be more gratifying and pleasing to you than a short recital of the origin of our christian churches, which are called militant churches.

It is certain that Jesus Christ and the Apostles did not expect a continuance of their churches and doctrines, for they foretold that it would be supplanted by a false spirit and power, which would prevail against the truth and overcome it, for a certain limited time.

Jesus told his disciples by whom, and in what manner, it would be effected; that many false christs, i. e. Anti-christs, should appear and deceive many, and if it were possible would deceive the very elect, (the best of christians) by their giving heed to seducing spirits (or doctrines) and doctrines of devils, (idolatrous doctrines.)

St. John the revelator, represents the church of Christ fast on a decline, Rev. ii, 3. he shows the continuance of the same beastly power in a different form, to whom the dragon gave his power, Rev. xiii. this dragon was Rome Pagan, who slew her thousands, and Rome Christians, her tens of thousands, (so saith Bishop Newton.)

John represents this compound of monstrous wickedness by a scarlet coloured beast, carrying a mother of harlots, with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, Rev. xvii.

The question is whether there was a true church through all the dark reign of Popery, that maintained the true doctrines of the gospel of Jesus Christ? I must say I believe there was not after considering the true source from whence all our militant churches sprung. And by whose doctrines and practices the cause of truth and virtue has been, and is trodden under foot of men, and the gospel of Jesus Christ been evil spoken of; of whom Simon Magus is one, a sorcerer,

er, he professed himself a christian, and was baptised; his magical disposition he yet retained, not being baptised with the Holy Ghost, he offered money for the power to give the Holy Ghost, for with that he thought to get great gain, and make himself honorable; selfishness and pride was his object, and they are the elements of hell. Which is the worst to offer money for that gift, or to work for it?

From this disappointment, he became enraged at the church and left them, (wrath is another element of hell) and did what he could to oppose the gospel of Jesus Christ, and the preachers thereof; he practised the vilest whoredoms, and it is said he founded the sect of the Gnostics, who believed men would be saved by knowledge, be their lives ever so vicious, and held to a vast number of Gods of inferiority.

He was considered as a divine person and Messiah, sent to the Samaritans, and Helena his whore was the holy ghost. Justin Martyr says almost all the Samaritans worshiped him as their God; see Brown's Dic-

tionary of the Bible, Acts xiii, 1. &c.

Another by the name of Ber-Jesus, or Elymas the sorcerer, a noted Jewish Magician in the Isle of Cyprus, who endeavoured to hinder the conversion of the deputy, whom Paul declared to be full of all subtilty and mischief, a child of the devil, an enemy to all righteousness; see Acts xiii, 10. Brown's Dictionary of the Bible.

Another by the name of Hymeneus, a native of Ephesus, for a while professed the christian faith, and seemed to be a real believer, but he fell into gross errors, and abominable practices, and Paul excommunicated him from the church, delivering him and Alexander to Satan (Pagan or enemies;) several years after he was found with Philetus, who was a carnal lover, refusing and teaching, saying there is no other resurrection, than that from sin to grace, by faith in baptism; 1st Tim. i. 20, 2d Tim. ii. 17; see Brown's Dictionary of the Bible.

There were others whose names are not mentioned, but were called

Paul's false brethren, who subverted the souls of others, by saying ye must be circumcised and keep the law, to whom Paul gave no such commandments; see Acts xv. 24. This was the general doctrine of the Jewish church; see Acts viii. 1.

Saul persecuted the church of Christ and wasted it, and false brethren crept in unawares, that they might bring the church of Christ into bondage; see Gal. ii. 4. And Paul wished they were cut off which troubled the church, Gal. v. 12; whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things they ought not for filthy lucre sake.

Paul said they must not give heed to Jewish fables, Tit. i. 11—14; it seems that the Cretians propagated the Jewish doctrines, (or fables) as they were noted for forging lies and falsehoods, perfidiousness and every other ill quality; see Bayley's Dictionary, and Tit. i. 12.

These false Christs and teachers were so numerous in the days of the Apostles, that their progress could not be stopped by the Apostles them-

selves ; from this source and the Jewish church I expect easily and correctly to show the regular descent of our militant churches by their doctrines and precepts.

The name Anti-Christ was first used by the Apostles, and it includes whatever is against Christ, and was intended to apply more particularly to such, as under a pretence of acting in the name of Christ, acted with a spirit directly against the spirit of Christ, therefore it was levelled at those who had a pretended faith in Christ.

All hypocrites therefore are considered as Anti-christs ; even now there are many Anti-christs, whereby we know that it is the last time ; 1st John ii. 18, there are many in the world who profess Christ but do not possess him, who own him in words but deny him in works. Satan always takes the advantage of a revelation from heaven, to corrupt and supplant the works of God, as these hypocrites are doing ; they went out from us, the Apostles said, but were not of us ; this is full proof that our militant

churches never descended from the Apostolic churches, for their church was never a fighting church, (the signification of militant is fighting) and as every thing begets its own likeness, our militant churches must have originated from the church of Anti-Christ. Hence those militant churches according to their own carnal taste, continued to practice those superstitious rites, by putting as it were, a piece of new cloth to the old garment ; they claimed a relation with the old Apostolical church, and at the same time retain the friendship of the world ; they make a fair show in the flesh and constrain others to keep the law ; Gal. vi. 12.

The Pagans early took the same deceitful liberty of perverting the truth, and introduced their licentious doctrines and impious festivals, committing abominations as was not named among the Gentiles ; such have had a principal hand in establishing the kingdom of Anti-Christ, who were neither professed Jews nor Pagans, but like the Samaritans, a sort of mongrel professors, composed of Chris-

tianism, Judaism, and the heathenish superstitions which makes out a harlot.

Such are the doctrines of our militants, they are enemies to the gospel of Christ, liars, evil beasts, slow belies (Cretians,) who still continue in their former doctrines, and is proof they are yet of the devil, are deceivers and Anti-Christ. Diatrephes, was one of those self styled militant orthodox, a false pretender that wished to be preferred to every body; he did all he could to oppose the progress of the Apostles, and did what he could to slander and disparage them, for an anti-christ could never endure sound doctrine without the mixture of false covering, neither could he support his dignity without a revenue from his subjects; so we see the features of our militants in the church of Anti-Christ, thus they endeavour to undermine and supplant the true spirit and power of the gospel, yet amidst all the deceitful workings of lying apostles and filthy, debauched, lukewarm professors, there remained a few who had ears to hear,

notwithstanding the wisdom of man was introduced as the foundation of faith instead of the gospel, by substituting the letter in room of the spirit, and assuming the authority of expounding the writings of the apostles by the rules of a blind philosophy, which carnal men like themselves had invented. Hence (says Osterwald) the tenets and methods of philosophers were blended with the christian religion; then all things began to degenerate, and the Jewish scriptures, which the scribes and pharisees themselves could not understand, and they together with the writings of the apostles, were explained by those sons of Simon Magus and Diotrophes, and the glorious reformation effected nothing but a total shipwreck of the faith of the Son of God; and by the assistance of Clement and Origen, invented questions about the christian religion that has perplexed and puzzled the whole world.

The Rev. Dr. Robinson states that from a wild enthusiastical philosopher of Alexandria, named Ammonius Saccas, sprung a chaos of gross errors

called philosophy, about matter and spirit, the whole and the parts, human souls, demons, &c. and they were all applied by these men to the christian religion; and these men are the highly respected fathers and founders of our glorious christian system, and it is now called the new system of philosophy, because the christian system was received by a vote of the school gentlemen of Alexandria.

McLaine says, that Saccas adopted with such dexterity this Pagan doctrine of philosophy, that he appeared as a christian to the christians, and a pagan to the pagans. Mosheim says he attempted a reconciliation of all sects, whether philosophical or religious, and taught a doctrine which he looked upon as proper to unite them all, christians not excepted, in the most perfect harmony.

Here began the contest between faith and reason, religion and philosophy, piety and genius, which increased in the succeeding ages, and is prolonged even to our times, with a violence that rendered it difficult to be brought to a conclusion. The ad-

vocates for learning gained by degrees, until laws were enacted that excluded the ignorant and illiterate from the office of public teachers.

The Pharisees invented many austere and monkish rules of discipline, which neither they nor their followers observed, but to blind the eyes of the ignorant and carry the appearance of sanctity before the deluded multitudes, and through a vain show to deceive mankind into a belief that it was the revealed religion of Christ Jesus, while their own interest and pleasure was at the bottom. And it is much so at this day, vain philosophy garnished with the words of the scripture, titles of honour were adopted, offices of dignity created, councils called, and a vote of the majority established the test of truth.

Historians say, at this time, solid piety was scarcely to be found in the church, that little remained but a motley spectacle of superstition, who called themselves the catholic and orthodox church, and claim their descent from the apostolic church, and if any keep themselves clear from

those subtle deceivers they are called by the odious name of heretic, (which means any who differ from them in sentiment,) who were so far from a coalition with the general mass of Pagans, Jews, and christian philosophers, that they stood a common object of hatred to them all ; (is not this the case with the universalists at this day ?) they are opposed by every other denomination in the world, and those renowned fathers who are the descendants of Simon Magus, have been considered the only key to open and explain the scriptures, the only exposition of the word of God, and the only test of truth whereby all controversies were to be decided.

Dr. Robinson says Origen persecuted the world with an endless number of books ; he wrote twenty tomes (or volumes) to explain the hidden mysteries of the gospel, hence the christian doctors began to introduce their subtle and obscure eruditions into the religion of Jesus, mix vain philosophy with christianity and add to the divine precepts of our Lord many of their own superstitious rites, which

had no sort of foundation in any part of the sacred writings, which was very prejudicial to the cause of the gospel, so says Mosheim ; see Ecclesiastical History, volume 1st, page 171.

Pantaenus, the head of the Alexandrian school, was the first who enriched the church, with a version of the sacred writings, (see Eccl. Hist. page 182,) and this version was regarded as the sacred rule of faith and manners ; Clement explained and commented on almost all the sacred writings ; thus to this day, we have the sacred writings explained to us, by and through the medium of a vain philosophy, and licentious priesthood, who are the children of God (as they affirm) and that God has sent them to preach the gospel ; whereas Simon Magus, their great grandfather, sent them, who was the God of the Samaritans, and perhaps they are assisted by Helena his whore, who was the Holy Ghost for the Samaritans.

Robinson says Origen broached a new mode of explaining scripture ; this was, that scripture had a double sense,

one plain and literal, the other hidden and mysterious. They wholly neglected the literal meaning, and their whole force was engaged to explain the hidden mysteries of God; and in so doing they darkened the holy scriptures with their idle fictions: some passages were forced out of their obvious meaning, in order to make them chord with their philosophical systems.

It is said Clemens gave the first example, the Alexandrian version, commonly called the septuagint: it was regarded almost of divine authority, and from Jews and Pagans they formed the canon, or church law, and adopted the maxim, that it was not only lawful, but even praiseworthy to deceive, (see Eccl. hist. vol. 1st page 193,) and even to use the expedient of a lie in order to advance their cause of truth and piety. Such, says doctor Robinson, were the benefits of the Alexandrian school; and chiefly Origen, conferred on the primitive Catholic church, which they called the church of Christ, militant church, &c.

Perfections of the Supreme Being, and the nature and destination of the human soul, was a great study with the Gentile philosophers, Monks, Friars, Popes, Bishops, and Prelates, and is countenanced to this day: all is uncertainty yet, and is couched in genuine, double rectified spirit of mystery. They cannot imagine what is the destination of an immortal soul, and the perfections of an invisible being; yet they boast of judging the world by and by, all of which shews a want of wisdom, judgement, and an acquaintance with ancient history.

Theophilus, bishop of Antioch, was the first who made use of the word Trinity, to express the distinction of what divines call persons in the Godhead, or what demoniacs call persons in the Godhead, (demoniac is a man or woman possessed of the devil,) see Bailey's dictionary; we are but very little obliged to their demoniacs for information of unscriptural terms, to which the world has attached false ideas.

The heathens were exercised with a great degree of hatred against the

christians, and called them Atheists; and at this day christians are possessed with a great degree of hatred and ill nature towards others that differ from them, and call them deists, atheists, universalists, and the like. Now are they any better than the heathen? Surely Simon Magus is their founder, and they are strangers to the religion of Christ; they basely and perfidiously misrepresented the sentiments and doctrines of the apostles and the primitive christians, (so says *Simon Magus*, Eccl. hist. vol. 1. page 150) a motley spectacle of tradition, superstition, and deception, the breath and spirit of Simon Magus.

The apostle Paul saith to us, there is but one God, 1 Cor viii. 6. the one God is the literal sense, three persons the mysterious sense; thus it appears the catholics held that more persons than one may be called God, and worshipped. Is it not so at this day? Do not our militant churches say, that it takes three Gods to make one, and this one makes three, and one out of the three actually died?—This doctrine was established by a

council of learned bishops, doctors, and patriarchs, from which all the illiterate must be excluded.

Here the Jew, the pagan, and the christian, are incorporated into one. This is according to the true catholic faith, and those that dispute this doctrine, must be called hereticks, and must not be patronized. They are charged with extravagant, execrable doctrines, and the most gross immoralities. This rouses the persecuting spirit of both Pagans and Catholics to exterminate hereticks from off the earth, while at the same time they declared themselves to be the servants of God.

What is the account historians give of them? Heresy in Greek, says Lardner, signifies election or choice, and is used for any opinion which a man chooseth as best, or most probable; the same word is also translated as sect, (see Acts. 5-17-15-5-24-5-14-28-22—vol. 1. page 226) it is generally allowed that a heretick is one who professes to be a christian but is not supposed to be of the church: he has either separated himself from the

church, or been excluded from it by others, and as they are hereticks in our esteem, so are we in theirs. Hereticks were called opinionists; these calumniated all the rest, that differed with them, and much troubled the peace of Israel. The hereticks were charged with magic, lewdness, and all manner of wickedness, also teaching it; these are nearly the same accusations of our orthodox priesthood to this day.

How frequently do we hear them say of the Universalists, Deists, and Atheists, that they are guilty of spreading damnable heresy and all manner of lasciviousness? perfect nuisances to society, not fit to hold an office, nor even to set as jurors, and the like.

From whence did they originate? From the church of Christ or Anti-Christ? These militant churches do not hesitate to say they are enemies to the public tranquility. So said their predecessors of all who differed from their Jewish Fables, (so says Mosheim, Eccl. hist. vol. 1, page 73.

Tacitus styles the religion of Jesus a destructive superstition. Is the common doctrines of our day any better, which declares the doctrine of the salvation of all men, the devils doctrine? In so doing they gain to their side the foolish, vulgar, stupid slaves, women and children. By such kind of reasoning as carries the appearance of sanctity to the multitude; the prudent are silent, the multitude believe, and impostors triumph. Under a deceitful mask, they try to make it appear, that they, and not the hereticks stand related to Jesus Christ and his church, and have a right to the name of christians and descendants of the apostles. Our orthodox are of the same kidney, they can reproach the Universalists, Deists, and Atheists, of a thousand extravagances and abominations, that have no foundation.—They were more ready to believe common report and fame, than to be to the trouble to examine and dive into the bottom of our doctrines and decide for themselves. They count it a great deal easier to give heed to their priests and Jewish Fa-

bles, (although Paul said they must not give heed to the Jewish Fables,) Titus i. 14.—It seems as though the devil put a cowl upon them (a sort of hood worn by monks) to deceive mankind, and so the gods of this world hath blinded the eyes of unbelievers to this day.

How far will the heat of controversy carry men? They have confounded christianity with Judaism, and Paganism, converted revelation into a source of wealth and honor to the carnally wise and wicked of this world. The enemy of God is always ready to corrupt whatever has been revealed from heaven, by getting it into the hands of proud and wicked priests, who could accommodate it to their own carnal ends, which is manifest that such doctrines and institutions were not of God, but descended from the Samaritan god and church, and not from the Apostolic church, as they vainly and impiously suppose, for they have never been actuated by ~~any~~ higher motives, than a regard to their own honor and interest: thus they vainly supposed they were the sons

of God, and with their power of enchantment they cause honest people to set out for this prize, by taking up their cross and following Christ, and so by these deceivers they followed Anti-Christ, but like thieves and robbers, they were endeavouring to get to heaven by their own works of righteousness.

Simon Magus was the first who embraced the gospel, and to purchase that power which would raise him in the esteem of the people, to a level with Apostles. Diotrephus gained the pre-eminence, and many have followed his pernicious ways. These, and the Alexandrian school furnished a new race of Apostles, whose labours through the second and third centuries consisted in forming new churches, wholly different from the primitive churches of Christ. Thus from one thing to another; they altered, expunged, and added, until their christian religion, (so called,) demanded the most honorable seat in the Roman empire, and its promoters became exalted to the utmost pitch of pride, luxury, and temporal domin-

ion, by which the nations of the earth have been deceived, even to the present day.

Constantine the great, pretended he had a vision: a pillar of light in the heavens, appeared in the form of a cross. He pretended he was directed to make a cross like unto it, to be his royal standard for his army to fight under; and under this standard our orthodox militant churches fight for king Jesus. Their warfare was then with the sword and other deadly weapons, but the mode and manner of their warfare at this day has changed, the weapons of their warfare now are a tongue of slander, an unmerciful spirit of persecution, an horrible tempest of tongue thunder, and the most laborious exertions in deception and fraud. Thus the war is carried on in heaven (or Catholic churches;) Michael and his angels (or Constantine and his christian soldiers) fought a great battle in the church of God, i. e. in the churches militant.

Whether these militant churches are the churches of Christ or Anti-

Christ is the question; and should it be found to be of Anti-Christ that Constantine set up, then his descent must be reckoned from Simon Magus, who was cotemporary with the Apostles; and what did Constantine that great head of the church bring forth but Anti-Christ? And if this great body (the church) is essentially different from the Apostolic church, then it follows beyond all contradiction, that the militant and orthodox churches are the churches of Anti-Christ; of course all such as have sprung from that body and spirit, or claim any relation thereto are of Anti-Christ's kingdom, and stand in no relation to the church of Christ, as they impiously call themselves by that endearing appellation and name.

How surprising it is, sensible men could avoid seeing the plain contrast between the spirit and works of Constantine and those of the primitive christian? How could any one have the confidence to appropriate the name of the true God, or of Christ his Son, to a haughty and blood thirsty pagan, who through scenes of hu-

man butchery, established himself at the head of a religion, of which he knew nothing but the name? Where is the least resemblance of the innocent church of Christ? Was it in accepting the glory of the kingdoms of this world? Happily the tree is known by its fruit.

Thus cunning deceivers who crept in unawares and effected a great revolution, by incorporating together the civil and ecclesiastical powers under the name of Christ, and pretend to believe in the truth and divinity of the gospel, yet violate its laws by repeated transgressions, and live in contradiction to their own inward principles.

Can there be a plainer mark of Anti-Christ? The inward principles of Constantine, no doubt were peace, but peace he could not possess at the head of an avaricious, contentious, and aspiring priesthood; he could not serve two masters, if he honored the bishops, he must, of course, at the same time dishonor Christ; this was considered as a horrible prelude to the total overthrow of the pure doctrines of the Apostolic church.

A house divided against itself cannot stand; the militant churches were soon up in arms against each other; for instead of retaining the power which was manifested in the days of the Apostles, in every good word and work, they adopted a vain parade of external rites and ceremonies, resembling those of the Jews and Pagans; and in process of time, raised the arm of persecution against all that was so far enlightened as to differ from them, and they were considered persons of no religion; the very picture of our orthodox doctrines at this day.

Thus superstition was introduced; invented to serve the selfish ends of a licentious priesthood, who substituted their own natural wit and learning instead of the spirit of inspiration. Thus we see all our priesthood pretend to inspiration, being sent from God, &c. Thus they changed the simplicity of the gospel, who are more delighted with the pomp and splendour of external institutions, than to close reasoning and honest study; therefore they give little or no attention to any objects but those which

strikes their outward senses ; and this pomp of religion naturally casts a part of the glory and magnificence upon their ministers, and thereby gives them, imperceptibly, a vast ascendancy over the minds of the people ; and as the self-interested clergy have had the modeling of the Catholic religion from the beginning :—it is evident, that its rites and ceremonies throughout are merely the fruits of human ambition, and not of any divine appointment. Mosheim says the bishops augmented the number of religious rites by way of accommodation to the infirmities and prejudices of both Jews and heathens in order to facilitate their conversion. How it brings to mind the practice of the clergy at this day ? (See Eccl. hist. vol. 1, page 197—8,) and as early as in the second century, the followers of Saccas adopted the Jewish titles of Chief Priests, Priests and Levites, and soon claimed the same privileges that were conferred upon the ministers under the Mosaic dispensation, and Mosheim says introduced that erroneous notion of the

Eucharist. They were studious to give their religion a mystick air, so as to put it upon an equal footing, in point of dignity, with that of the Pagans ; and this was the reason that the Eucharist or Lords Supper, and baptism being denominated mysteries. The more mysterious, the more sacred and glorious.—(Eccl. hist. vol. 1, page 200.)

Victor, bishop of Rome, was an African (says Robinson,) and kept the passover when Peter did ; and Polycrates was bishop of Ephesus, and kept the passover when John did.—Thus they contended about keeping the passover ; thus their mysteries and festivals were adopted as their main articles and terms of communion, instead of righteousness and peace, and a set of profligate gentry, no better in reality than Pagans, were set up to administer and enforce these empty rites, to a deluded multitude, as the great and only means of salvation. The persons to be baptized, after repeating the creed, confessed and renounced their sins, and were immersed under water.

These superstitions increased (says Mosheim, vol. 1, page 207,) and Origen was the first who introduced long sermons (page 282,) and this method gained such credit, as to be soon almost universally followed, and is to this day. All those in a penitential state of repentance, and those who had not received the sacrament of baptism, were debarred from their sanctimonious supper. Is it not so at this day? (See Mosheim's Eccl. hist. vol. 1, page 283.) Those customs originated from the heathen mysteries, says Mosheim, and it is evident that they never originated from the Apostolical church, as they impiously and superstitiously affirm.

Mosheim states, none were admitted to the sacred ordinance of baptism, until they had publickly declared they had been delivered from the dominion of the prince of darkness, i. e. from the power of their magicians:—The driving out of the demon was considered as an essential preparation for baptism—(see Eccl. hist. page 285) After baptism the candidate returns home adorned with

crowns, and arrayed with garments of white as emblems of their purity and victory over the world, the flesh, and the devil, as is expressed by our modern saints. This hypocrisy was invented to cover their inward corruption and guilt, while they live in sin and perfect union with the world. The practice of fasting was introduced; (see Eccl. hist. vol. 1, page 286,) and the sign of the cross gave victory over all sorts of trials and calamities, and was considered as an antidote against malignant spirits, or doctrines. Are not the same superstitions practiced at this day, with but very little variation from their origin? And what is surprising, they say they originated from the church of Christ; and those doctrines were propagated by Christ and his church, or Apostles.—What horrid blasphemies!

The doctrines of the Greeks and Romans, (who are Gentiles,) were called by St. Paul the doctrines of devils, were introduced into the church of Rome, who hath many more children than she who hath a husband; and our old mother harlot hath plant-

ed, or spawned an innumerable multitude of militant churches, and they call themselves the church of Christ, this is their name, but by practice and precept they belong to the church of Anti-Christ, with all their fictitious gods and heroes, under the perverted name of Christ, and practice Paganism, and to the wicked become more wicked, that they might subject them to their ungodly dominion: hence says Mosheim the Greeks and Romans differ very little from the christians or hyppocrites,—(Eccl. hist. vol. 1, page 382.) Their prayers degenerated into a vain and swelling bombast, their sermons serve to darken rather than enlighten the understanding, and serve chiefly to excite the stupid admiration of the illiterate and superstitious, who delight in vain embellishments. The list of saints was augmented with fictitious names, and robbers were converted into martyrs. The woeful influence of superstition was now become universal, and yet this is the church of Christ, that for many ages has been considered the light of the world; but like the ma-

sonic religion her light is put under a bushel, and this kind of religion, (if it may be called religion) has been artfully substituted instead of the primitive church and doctrine.

Doctor Robinson says, that Idacius and Ithacius were the first who called a council of twelve bishops, and passed a decree, that no man should assume the rank of teacher without leave from them. (See Eccl. hist. vol. 1, page 414,) from hence it is plain the ordaining of ministers originated as early as 380, and it is now almost blasphemy for any man to assume the rank of teacher without licence first had and obtained; something like Saul's going to the witch of Endor for knowledge. It is but little short of blasphemy to contradict a minister, who some suppose, God has sent from heaven to preach the gospel to the world, and the world are indebted to them, to give them of their substance and they never have enough. Again says Mosheim, (Eccl. hist. vol. 1, page 414—15,) that one hundred and fifty bishops completed the council of Nice and fixed the doctrine of three per-

sons in one God, and is the christian creed to this day, notwithstanding St. Paul declared to us (christians,) there is but one God, who is the God and Father of all living; and the Jews held to but one God and none else. Mark xii. 32.

Thus superstition became the established religion, and persecution is the principal means of supporting it to this day; founded on the coalition of civil and ecclesiastical powers under the hypocritical name of a christian government; and thus they pretend the religion of Christ has descended to this day. How can fighting churches possess the religion of Jesus Christ, which was peace and good will unto men? Therefore the church which was founded by Constantine the great, was not a continuation of the church of Christ, but very reverse; neither was the church founded by Simon Magus, and Paul's false brethren a continuation of the church of Christ, but a continuation of the Jewish and Pagan churches, as will plainly appear from their doctrines.

Mosheim says there were four bishops, who enjoyed a certain degree of pre-eminence over the rest of the Episcopal order; they answered to the four Prætorian Prefects (certain Roman magistrates) who were created by Constantine about A. D. 400; they were called patriarchs; of these followed the Exarchs (a deputy king or viceroy) who had the care and inspection over several provinces; in the lower class were Metropolitans who had the government of one province; under whom were the Arch-bishops, whose inspection was confined to certain districts; the next grade below were the bishops, all of whom were styled Popes, (as says bishop Newton) and was declared not to be bound by the law of God or man,—(see 9th Edition, vol. 2, page 108.) The next were the Chorepiscopi, (superintendants of the country churches.) These dignified orders were created to fill the place of Evangelists, Apostles, Elders, &c. Thus we see the form of their glorious church, filthy, joined with a wicked world, whose heads and founders are Simon Magus, and Con-

stantine the great. St. Paul declares their doctrines to go out from us, but were not of us. The stream is always like its fountain; and the fountain of the church of Christ is love. If those militant churches had enjoyed the love of God, how could they have destroyed so many of their brethren of the human family? Or how could they enslave the poor Africans? Mosheim says, Constantine billeted out the inspection of the church, both external and internal: the latter was committed to bishops, who are Popes in degree and council, relative to all controversies, forms of divine worship, offices of priests, vice of the ecclesiastical orders, &c.—The externals the Emperor assumed. All this comprehended the state and discipline of the church militant, and extended to all contests and debates, that should arise between the ministers of the church, superior as well as inferior, concerning possessions, reputations, rights and privileges, their offence against the laws, and other things of like nature.—(See Eccl. Inst. vol. 1, page 340—1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000)

All these chieftains only served to corrupt the doctrines and gospel of Christ and the Apostles, and to please the taste of a debauched and corrupt empire; and I fear it is much the case at this our day; they seem to fear the creature more than the Creator, and to have men's persons in admiration because of advantage. Why cannot people see the infinite difference a lordly set of Ecclesiasticks, bred in the school of religious contention, living in idleness, luxury and lust, employed, supported, and enriched for the purpose of rendering the religion of Simon Magus and Constantine universally acceptable to their subjects? Is it not a libel upon the name of christianity? They dispute about the sanctity of their bishops, the gifts of the Holy Ghost, and baptism, and will avoid communion with other sister militants; this mother of harlots is the fountain head; and can the streams and rivulets be any better?

The Emperor admonished those bishops and doctors, to end their disputes, but to no purpose: and the great dispute of Christendom was a-

bout the three persons in the God-head, and it exists yet, the church and the world in one. Here the Patriarch, the Papa, (or Pope,) or father must have all power in his hands, and if he is in favor of truth or error, his council must stand, and those decrees and opinions laid a lasting foundation for errors of every kind, and has driven the world into the utmost confusion. All those self-styled orthodox, are constantly contending for the pre-eminence, and all is sanctioned as coming from the holy Apostles, and Jesus Christ.

Mosheim, says Augustine, bishop of Hippo, an African, filled the whole christian world with Catholic doctrines, of the imputation of original sin, election and reprobation, which has darkened the earth to the present day. (See Eccl. hist. vol. 2, page 87—89.) This same African, Augustine, inflamed his hearers with violent passions, by urging them to hate each other for their speculations. I ask, does this look like the church of Christ? We have a great many such African preachers amongst us at this

day: this was their sunshine and mid-day splendour, over the minds of mankind; they declared that God excited Pope Innocent to erect the most holy office of the inquisition. Can any one suppose these booted Apostles descended from the church of Christ? This bloody fanatic of Africa, understood the ten commandments in a spiritual sense:—"Thou shalt not kill," signified, thou shalt not kill an orthodox believer; therefore the command did not protect the poor hereticks! (see Eccl. Researches, page 102—3.) Hereticks were the principal object of their hatred, as the Universalists are at this day; their doctrines opposeth all other doctrines of our world. The object of the primitive clergy was to clear the world of every object that would expose their hypocrisy, or weaken their lordly influences over a benighted world. Is not this the plain reason why our clergy wish to expunge the Universal doctrine from the universe? I leave the world to judge. The greatest champion in the cause stands the highest on the list of Catholick heroes and

canonized saints. The continual strife is, who shall be greatest; and where can there be any room for truth and virtue? The See of Rome (which is the dignity or seat of an Arch-bishop or bishop,) was a most seducing object of sacerdotal ambition. Such was the lawful power of those degenerate plants of the vine of Sodom, which evidently proceeded from Anti-Christ, with the augmentation of vices and luxury of every kind, which that sacred (or satanic) order produced. This was the source of all their ambition; a sordid thirst for temporal glory. The bishops contended with each other in a most scandalous manner, and the breach is not healed to this day.—(Eccl. hist. vol. 1, page 339.) How diametrically opposite are these proceedings to those of the Apostolical church? The bishops lorded it over the presbyters, or elders of churches, the presbyters over inferior officers, and the lower class setting themselves up as great ones over the common people, and priests and people tyrannising with relentless cruelty over whom they pleased to call

hereticks, who fell a prey to these descendants of the holy Apostles, and all the protestant priesthood have universally laboured to establish the credit and authority of the Catholick church in every age.

They have used great partiality in charging all the apostacy upon the bishop of Rome, while they claim a relation to that sink of corruption.—Hence the very way the Alexandrian priesthood, established by Constantine, seemeth even to this day, to be right, and kindred bishops and doctors, love to have it so; and by false arguments and bold assertions try to prove it to be so, notwithstanding all their pomp, vain glory, and compound of civil and ecclesiastical tyranny.

Their confused and contradictory jargon, which they call orthodoxy, plainly proves, that a subtle priesthood, were aspiring to the entire command and power over both church and state; therefore the greatest part of mankind sunk into superstition and ignorance; this was in consequence of a set of blind guides, who caused the people to believe that themselves,

their doctrines, and their creeds were handed down, in regular succession, from the Apostles. What was there then to prevent these basest of all deceivers, from setting up a false God, a false Christ, false teachers, false saints, and the like; the superstitious and ignorant multitude were at their controul. Yet amidst this Babylonish confusion, they can boast of being the children of God, (or descendants from the church of Christ,) and they could establish any doctrine this synagogue of satan could agree upon; the only difficulty was, who shall be greatest. Hence ambitious quarrels, and bitter animosities arose among the patriarchs, which produced the most bloody wars, and the most detestable and horrid crimes. These ungodly tyrants took the basest methods to supplant each other of the pre-eminence, yet boast of being the descendants of the holy Apostles, and the children of God. They abused and perverted what had been published abroad by the Apostles; and thus have trodden underfoot the sacred doctrines of the Apostles and

Jesus Christ, by the bloody dragon giving up his seat of Pagan power to the ghostly bishop of Rome; and this same beastly superstition was pursued under the title of God's true religion, and is so considered to this day.

Oh horrid blasphemy! Must the reason of man forever be insulted with the influence of names and sounds, which is nothing at best but a vain philosophy and motley spectacle of superstition, which is only the inventions of carnal and wicked men, imposed on the ignorant for the light of truth? Long has the world been deceived with their senseless jargon about God and Christ, the origin of the world, the destiny of immortal souls, the resurrection of saint and sinner, about death eternal, an infinite devil, divine decrees, grace, purgatory, pilgrimages, holy oil (to burn over the tombs of martyrs,) a wooden cross, cream, spittle, monastic rules, and whatever else might excite the blind reverence and stupid awe of their deluded followers. All this served to furnish a wicked priesthood with sufficient authority to ty-

ranise over the common people, and to live in luxury, idleness, and lust, upon their property; this is what I conceive in reality, to be their benign gospel, this is the victory they gain over the world, the flesh, and the devil.

Mosheim says, their lying tales are utterly unworthy of credit, and that pious frauds were frequently practiced, in order to captivate the minds of those who were scarcely susceptible of rational conviction.—(See Eccl. hist. vol. 2, page 7—8. The impudence of impostors in contriving false miracles was artfully proportioned, to the credulity of the vulgar, whilst the sagacious and wise, who perceived these frauds were compelled to silence, by the dangers that threatened their lives and fortunes, if they detected the artifice: therefore the prudent are silent, the multitude believe, and impostors triumph. So it is at this day.

After their pretended conversion, they retain their primitive ferocity and savage manners; and practice all sorts of wickedness. Must not the

whole of their converting, christianizing, illuminating and churching, appear as great a romance, in the eyes of sensible men, as the Arabian Knights, or Fairy Tales?

Mosheim says, their conversions was owing more to the fear of punishment, than sound argument or the love of truth; and the world at this day retains a great part of their former impiety, superstition and licentiousness; that they are attached by a more outward and nominal profession, renouncing the purity of the doctrines of Christ, and the Apostles, and the authority of the gospel; by their flagitious lives, and the superstitious and idolatrous rites and institutions which they continue to observe, to this day, is evident to our senses. Thus they consider themselves the successors of the Apostles and the church of Christ; or as they affirm, Christs militant church, which is a fighting church.

Mosheim says that Boniface was styled the Apostle of the Germans, (see Eccl. hist. vol. 2, page 201) and this booted apostle often employed

violence and terror, artifice and fraud in order to multiply the number of christians, (what a fine glass for our clergy to look into,) who was no better than a band of robbers and pirates; whose religion and gospel were a brutal imposition on the reason and rights of men, which has been retailled out by Catholick doctors and divines under the name of gospel blessings, and has driven many honest men to discard the pure principles of christianity, and all its votaries, with the utmost abhorrence, and justly they might condemn all such religion as wore the features of a wicked and bloody priesthood and an oppressive and beastly hierarchy. Can any real friend of God or man look on with indifference whilst a distressed world is amused with the flowery tales about a divine gospel, a benign religion, and a celestial light? Or must not reason and conscience speak out and testify that all such gospelizing is the cursed deception of Anti-Christ and Simon Magus? Such awful scenes of merciless tyranny under the mask of christian profession, are the most ne-

ted achievements of Catholick emperors, Popes, bishops and monks, thro' the whole reign of Anti-Christ. It is impossible to enumerate all their deceptions and pious frauds, their secret wickedness and open crimes, which have been practiced by the clergy under the sacred name of God and Christ, and under a cloak of pious motives and holy ends, but happily to some they are known by their fruits, their own historians being their witnesses.

Their militant churches are a motley assemblage of monks, prostitutes, boys, girls, slaves, malefactors, and profligate debauchees, who are all animated with this world's honor and selfish motives; and there is no kind of insolence, injustice, impiety, barbarity and violence, but may be found in those militant churches; yet they boast of a regular succession from Christs church, and that it is precisely the same as the Apostle's.

Nothing perhaps in the annals of history can equal the flagitious deeds of this infernal kingdom of Anti-Christ, which was governed by an in-

fernal priesthood; and what could such infernals communicate to their successors, even to the latest ages, but the same infernal spirit of deception and fraud, under the name of a gospel, whose dictator is our Lord, God, the Pope? Another God upon earth, King of Kings, and Lord of Lords! The same is the dominion of God, and the Pope, Lord of the Universe, arbiter of the fate of kingdoms and empires, and supreme ruler over the kings and princes of the earth.

Thus his votaries maintain that the power of the Pope is greater than all created power, and extends itself to things celestial, terrestrial, and infernal. Here we can see where our militants infernal doctrine came from: it was from Simon Magus to the Popes, and from the Popes like a mighty torrent to this our day. (See *Eccl. hist. vol. 2, page 339—460. Hist. of Redemp. page 432. Dissertations on the proph. vol. 2, page 71—2.*)

This king of kings pretended he had power to bind the souls of men, in heaven and earth, and to give the keys of death and hell to whom he

would: and our clergy make use of the same words in ordaining ministers, and consider themselves the ministers of Jesus Christ. According to St. John, when only the tenth part of the city fell, there were slain names of men seven thousand: but how many thousands of names, titles, and words have been corrupted in the whole extent of this corrupt church, and unjustly exposed to be hated and destroyed from any further use among mankind?

By such means, with deception, artifice, and diabolical fraud did Anti-Christ practice and prosper in deceiving the nations into a belief, in the holy Catholick church, her holy bishops, holy monks, holy virgins, holy institutions, holy ordinances, and above all her holy wars, inquisitions and persecutions. But who is the Pope? And who is the Catholick church, that they should be ornamented with vain titles under pretence of their conveying to later ages, a religion of which they were in every respect destitute? What are we to think of all our modern writers, who

to preserve their dying authority, and maintain their unjust titles and offices of dignity and profit, have and do still, impose on the ignorant by their smooth words, to make them believe that they are sent from God to spread the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, among the nations of the earth?

It is evident the doctrines they preach, is the very spawn of the false church, or church of Rome, that sink of corruption, a nest of vipers, and den of thieves. Is superstition, authority of names and titles, Popish decretals and Catholick dogmas, sufficient to bind reason, conscience, and every principle of humanity and justice, and hold them forever on the rack? If things are so as is stated above, where can our militant churches find the least shadow of pretence for calling their religion by the name of Jesus Christ? Surely of all abominations this must be the greatest.

It is said that the chief bishop in the Catholick church was the representative of Jesus Christ, and that inferior bishops represented the Apostles. Is it not so at this day? Where-

in then does our militant churches resemble the church of Christ? Does their doctrines or practice agree therewith? Did not those deceitful hypocrites cover their foul actions with their robes of indulgence, and live in their lusts, with their mistresses, under the title of wives and hired concubines?

Hence it is evident that their decrees and religion, were arranged to support the outward appearance of sanctity; and it is a demonstrative proof, that their pretended holy orders and holy institutions were spurious and rotten to the very core.—This was not the case with the church of Christ, for they had the spirit of purity, which gave them an overcoming power over every unclean spirit; whereas every institution of the mother of harlots was false, hence their mock institutions were productive of millions of lazy useless beings, who for ages were a common pest to civil society, and can spout and boast of being the children of God, saints, and descendants of the holy apostles.

All this and much more, has serv-

ed to render the name of convent and nunnery contemptuous to this day, and not only them, but the orthodox priesthood; see *Hist. of Redemption*, page 434.

Thus those militant churches became mad with orthodoxy, and millions of hereticks suffered all sorts of cruel death, whilst others took shelter under the more humane religion of Mahomet, and fain would they have the world believe that they are the successors of the apostles. May I be permitted to say, what bloody apostles these heresy hunters were, set on by those booted and bloody apostles, who were puffed up with vanity and vain glory: See *Eccl. Researches*, page 125.

The clergy were and are now a worthless set of men, enslaved to sensuality and superstition, and capable of the most abominable and flagitious deeds, (see *Eccl. Hist.* vol. 2d, page 389.) They supposed the hereticks were bound over to present and eternal perdition. I ask if this same doctrine dont prevail in our land at this day?

As early as the year 1233, that bloody court called the holy inquisition, was permanently established in Spain and France, which heightened the crimson colour of that bloody beast who instituted it, and the infernal rabble by whom it was executed, who made it their sole business of life to steal, kill and destroy men's lives. Did Jesus Christ come to destroy men's lives, or to save? He said he came to save men's lives, (*Luke ix*, 56,) neither did he come to condemn or judge the world. *John iii*. 17, *xii*. 47. *Eccl. Hist.* vol. 3, page 261.

In the kingdom of Castile and Aragon were eighteen inquisitorial courts, having each of them its councillors, termed apostolical inquisitors, its secretaries, sergeants and other officers; besides these there were twenty thousand familiars dispersed over the kingdom, who acted as spies and informers, for the purpose of apprehending all suspected persons and to commit them to prisons which belonged to the inquisition. By this infernal rabble of hellhounds, persons were seized on bare suspicion, put to the

torture, tried and condemned by the holy inquisitors, their punishments were dreadful. This is a fair picture of the benign influence of the thirteenth apostle, who is styled the supreme head of the Catholic church.

I ask must this synagogue of satan be considered the descendants of the holy apostles, and be called the church of Christ? (For a more particular account of those successors of the apostles, see *Eccl. Researches*, page 248.) This horrible court, says Robinson, is styled the holy and apostolic court of inquisition. See *Eccl. Researches*, page 240 or 49, likewise the account given by bishop Newton in his dissertation on the prophecies, vol. 2d, page 174—175.

Thus we see the lovely graces of this universal bishop, this universal judge of all controversies, this sovereign of all kings and disposer of all kingdoms, this vicegerent of Christ and God upon earth, has plainly manifested his diabolical nature by his furious and infernal works; and thus this mother of all abominations has evidently exposed her scarlot colour

by the millions whom she hath persecuted unto death.

That our militant churches are her descendants, is evident beyond all contradiction, for as is the mother so are the daughters. Is it not astonishing beyond all measure, that any should be so blind as to imagine that the gospel of Christ could be conveyed to future ages, through such a medium of faction, called the church; governed from age to age by a succession of priests? See *Eccl. Researches*, page 203.

Diotrephes was a Catholic priest, Anti-christ in the blade; he loved to have the pre-eminence, he prated with malicious words against heretick John and his brethren, and cast them out of the church. Councils are a large growth from the same diabolical root, rulers without dominion, and inquisitors without an inquisition; the evidence is now in the world before us. How often do our churches call councils to settle their disputes, and anathematize or excommunicate some member from the church. May

they not be called justly the descendants of Anti-christ?

They have ever to this day been dextrous in framing creeds or canons (church laws) for conscience, they differ only as a spark of fire differs from a city in a blaze; thus great ones go on to adopt great words, and as their numbers and authority increase they grasp the effectual power by faith, and form an inquisition in their dire decrees, and if any person, king or nobleman, prelate, priest, monk native or foreigner shall at any time deny this creed, or disobey their canons (or church laws) they must be numbered with Judas, Dathan and Abiram, and to suffer the pains of eternal damnation, with the devil and his angels.

The protestant reformed church, which took its rise early in the sixteenth century, taught no new doctrines, different from their old whorish mother; they built up the same people, in the same faith, upon another plan of government, and all pretending to be the church of Christ; yet like the unclean spirit, they have

returned to their old house and have entered in, and their last error is ten times worse than the first; Mosheim says instead of putting an end to their scandalous debates and animosities, which had continued in the church for many ages, divisions and sectaries increased. (See Eccl. Hist. vol. 4, page 3—5.) He calls those times, the times of discord, (see *ibid.* page 294—295.) Is it not so with our orthodox and militant churches at this day? Yet they still boast of a regular succession of the priesthood from the apostolical church, whereas it is a regular descent from the Jewish false church, and derived their authority from the same corrupt source, with Simon Magus at their head, and all the posterity of Cain in the rear.

It is plain that God never sent them, and according to their own concessions they rank themselves with the false prophets. (See Jeremiah xiv, 14.) Mosheim says they maintained that the faith of christians was to be determined by the word of God, which was their own translation; and who authorized them

to determine the faith of christians? The fact is they had stolen the words from their neighbour Catholics, and they had stolen them from the Apostles and true followers of Christ.—Jeremiah xxiii. 30—32.

Mosheim says, an obscure and inconsiderable person arose on a sudden in the year 1517, whose name was Martin Luther, born in Aisleben, in Saxony, (Germany) a monk of the Augustinian Eremites, i. e. Augustinians were hereticks, called also Sacramentarians, who hold that the gates of heaven are shut till the resurrection at the day of judgement; likewise an Eremitic is a heretick, (see Bailey's Dictionary,) who boasted of opposing himself alone to the whole earth. Then Martin Luther was a monk, and where did the monks spring from? They originated from a monastery, and are under a solemn vow to observe the rules of the founder of it; it is nothing more nor less than a college, and a vow is a solemn oath. Here then is the origin of the episcopal order.

I ask again, did colleges originate

from the church of Christ? Did Jesus Christ or his apostles teach men to swear, or make solemn oaths, in any way or manner? Jesus said swear not at all. What proof is there to show they are the successors of the apostles? I defy them to produce any. But there is abundance of proof that not only the episcopalians, but all our militant churches are the offspring of the scarlot whore, with Anti-christ at their head; and if the head is a source of spiritual wickedness, so also must be the body.

There was a contention arose between two monks, concerning the traffic of indulgences, and the Pope's power with regard to the remission of sins; this controversy was between Luther and John Tetzel, who was a dominican monk, an order of friars, founded in 1206, by Dominic, a Spaniard, who preached by public authority those famous (rather infamous) doctrines of the indulgences of Pope Leo 10th. From these two booted apostles, proceeded the blessed reformation, as is stated by that noted protestant writer; Doctor Robinson's

History of Charles V. vol. 2, page 105—107—108.

Did Jesus Christ or his apostles ever preach such indulgences, or that people could buy off their sins with money? If not, how can it be said these impostors are the successors of the Apostle? Luther acknowledged a high respect for the Apostolic See, (as he called it,) which was the See of Rome, and an implicit submission to its authority. The See of Rome is the dignity or seat of an Arch-bishop or bishop. Are not all our militant churches submissive to the same See? If Luther lived in submission to the See of Rome, he could not live in submission to the Apostolic See, for no one can serve two masters. Must I acknowledge these demoniacs to be the successors of the holy Apostles? God forbid! For further particulars see Rob. Charles V. vol. 2, page 112.

Here then was the first cause from which the mighty effects of the reformation flowed, from perjury, murder, adultery, theft, witchcraft, hatred, wrath, envy, and every other evil work. See Gal. v. 19, and onward.

According to that satanick rabble and monkish order, these are the beings who can declare, that obedience is better than the fat of rams; and Luther's submission to the See of Rome made him fat with money.—Notwithstanding his submission to the supreme bishop of Rome, he had the impudence to style him Anti-Christ, yet would represent him the 13th Apostle, the successor of Jesus Christ; and as Anti-Christ is against Christ, how can it be said the Pope of Rome came out from the church of Christ, as the successor of Christ?—Surely it is an Anti-Christ that declares such things.

Luther still professed to belong to that church, of which Anti-Christ was head, which was established by Constantine, from which the Papist originated, and of course the Protestants claim with them an equal relation. We do not yet find that they are the successors of Christ's church, their whole works, were contention and strife.

They must have been grossly deceived, to imagine that they were the

subjects of the Prince of Peace; as the fruit is the best evidence of the nature of the tree which produced it, so the ungodly practices of the divided and contentious Protestant sectaries, are the true witnesses of the source from whence they sprang; and who can tell the difference between setting up a religious test of supremacy at Constantinople, at Rome, or in Saxony? They all blended the spirit of violence and the sword, with the pretended gospel of Jesus Christ; but their blessed reformation, says Mosh-eim, reduced the state of things to violence and trouble; which is the very case in this our day.

There is not an evil that can blast society as this kind of religious doctrine, which is blasphemously said, to originate from the church of Christ; it causes new crimes, new claims, new disputes to arise, and a new order of men, new canon of church laws, new officers, and new courts to investigate them, new punishments to be inflicted, and in fine a new world to be formed, all in arms, animated with a fury that never slept.

There is no peace in any kingdom where our militant churches are set up, for perfidy, divisions, wars and bloodshed, constitutes the greatest part of their transactions; and all are carried on under the name of the Prince of Peace, and a pretext of maintaining his religion; the truth is distorted into falsehood, the precepts of the gospel are trodden underfoot, and the reason of mankind insulted; at the same time these lying hypocrites of Simon Magus, pretend they are the children of God.

From the year 1517, in which the reformation commenced, until the year 1546 in which Luther died, nothing but the fruits of ambition are manifest from the whole face of history:—during that period were endless controversies, debates about diets, (a convention of state or parliament) and councils; violence and wars are their distinguishing marks, and are as opposite to the precepts of the gospel, as bloodshed and robbery are opposite to peace and good will. Therefore religion was put out of the

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question, and so it is at this day.— See Robertson's Charles 5th, vol. 3, page 353—4, also 339.

Pre-eminence and profit was the mainspring that caused the reformation. Did this spirit originate and descend from the church of Christ, or true church? Maurice, son-in-law to the Landgrave of Hesse, was a perfidious wretch: Doctor Robinson says that some perfidious monster, according to the projects of Luther, must be the supreme head of the church of England.—(See Rob. Charles V. vol. 3, page 358.) Henry VIII, was also declared by parliament and people to be the supreme head on earth, of the church of England, (so says Mosheim Eccl. hist. vol. 4, page 101.) Here we find the very centre of this holy religion, in the very heart of the false church, the bottomless pit, the seat of satan, the cage of every unclean and hateful bird; yet they boast of being the descendants of the Apostles, and the church of Christ; all the Lutherans have adopted double names, so with their churches; church of Christ, militant church, and they are double

tongued, making use of Christ and his words, to sweeten their fighting churches; in this manner the Calvinists were leagued with them.

Thus they use the same means to abolish superstition and restore pure religion, as Constantine did to abolish Paganism, and promote their pretended gospel. From Simon Magus and Diotrephes, to Constantine, and from Constantine to Leo, and from Leo to Luther, and so through their reformation, one and the same spirit, says Mosheim, of Anti-christian bloodshed and tyranny, is manifest from the whole tenor of orthodox history, a sordid thirst for dominion and supremacy, accompanied with it, cool barbarity toward all who differed with the ruling party. Is it not the same at this day? as far as the civil authority tolerates them, and their principle engines of terror is tongue thunder! See Eccl. hist. vol. 4, page 102—124.

Doctor Heylin says, wherever this reformed gospel was preached, it brought forth seditions, tumults, rebellions, besides innumerable other outrages. How little does such a re-

thence, like a mighty torrent, came rolling along down to the reformation through Emperors and Popes; and this despotic hierarchy, or church government, also the holy order of angels which consists of nine, viz. Seraphims, Cherubims, Thrones, Dominions, Principalities, Powers, Virtues, Angels, and Arch-angels, (see Bailey's Dictionary,) through all its progress, by Protestant, as well as Popish writers, is called the church of Christ; and this great mammoth church is divided and sub-divided, until innumerable churches are formed and reformed, full of clashing principles, sectary against sectary, each claiming the greatest evidence of orthodoxy and of being the successors of the Apostles and church of Christ; double tongued christians, holding a friendship with the world, and claiming a relation to the church of Christ.—Simon Magus and Diotrephes are the founders. This is the great militant or fighting church, with the god of the Samaritans, and Helana his whore, Diotrephes, Constantine the great, the Popes of Rome, Maurice, John

Calvin, Wesley, and Martin Luther at their head, and to those they cry Abba Father, or Father, Father, Pa Ma, &c. and this Ma or mother, is justly called the mother of harlots, which makes it evident that all her offspring, or churches, are harlots, and all are marked in the forehead, as belonging to the whorish apostacy, in imitation of all the noted prostitutes. So saith bishop Newton.

Those harlots, or reformed churches took with them the same doctrines, sacraments, modes of worship, discipline, and government, together with a vast degree and increase of ill-nature against each other, and an unmerciful spirit of persecution, as will more fully appear.

In truth, the church of Anti-christ never had the doctrines, discipline and government of Christ in possession, but had stolen the words and institutions of the saints and clothed herself with their professions, and they are justly denominated thieves, liars, robbers, &c. they could shew no true descent from the true church, but from the false, or mother of all a-

bominations; the government of the true church was wholly changed; the Apostolic discipline was laid aside, and the whole authority engrossed by politicians; so that to this day the most grievous abuses are flagrant.

With respect to the vocation or calling of ministers, the exercise of discipline, the use of sacraments, &c. the monastick orders, or college gentlemen, held sentiments directly different and contrary to each other, about which they were perpetually quarreling and wrangling. And is it not so at this day with our learned scribes and pharisees, monks and friars? They wrangle and dispute about the scriptures, in the most shameful and scandalous manner, and condemn each other to endless torments and death. (It seems as though I was giving a narrative of the annals of hell,) and they still continue quarreling and disputing about the Eucharist (the Lord's Supper,) the Trinity (three God's in one,) the decrees of God, the vicarious atonement, imputed righteousness, &c. &c. &c.

Our modern doctors frequently appeal to the ancient fathers, the council of Nice, the writings of Origen, St. Ambrose, and St. Augustine, to determine what the faith of others should be, which are only a labyrinth of senseless jargon, for the former divisions were not healed even to this day, as divisions and animosities now exist, and are perceivable to every honest heart; they teach no new religion, different from their heads, at this time, nor concerning the Eucharist and body and blood of Christ;—one Rodbert, a monk affirmed that it was the same body eaten, that was born of the Virgin Mary. See Eccl. hist. vol. 2, page 330. This is the origin of transubstantiation introduced by Pope Innocent III, in the year 1215; then of course it did not come from the true church. Eccl. hist. vol. 3, page 236. And one Pungens Asinus a subtle doctor of the University, nursery, or college at Paris, who, towards the close of the thirteenth century, had the honor of substituting consubstantiation which was to make it more solid, substantial, and abso-

lutely the same body that was born of the Virgin Mary; this is maintained by the Lutherans. See Bailey's Dictionary.

Thus we see where, when, and in whom that pernicious error and superstitious rite took its rise: invented by subtle philosophers, and scholastick disputants, (the school gentlemen of Alexandria,) and brought forth from the prolific womb of the mother of harlots, the sink of every abomination and all sorts of wickedness; this kind of doctrine McLaine calls nonsensical doctrine. See Eccl. hist. vol. 4, page 306.

These high sounding words were calculated to impose upon the credulity of the blinded multitude, and to add the greatest number to the party who could use the most cunning deception in explaining the most pompous sounds of nonsense.

Was Christ divided? Love, fellowship and union, was the bread of life, which came down from Heaven, which Anti-christ, with all his learning and philosophy could never discern.

John Calvin, a native of Noyon, in France, a professor of divinity at Geneva, put the capstone upon the fabric of superstition, when he urged that in eating the bread and drinking the wine, Christ's real body was eaten and his blood drank. See testimony of Christ's second appearing, page 296—7. The truth is they were blind guides who knew nothing about the body and spirit of Christ, and how could they describe it to others? How to hate one another they understood and practiced in a very extraordinary manner, as their works abundantly do testify.

For more proof of what I state, let the reader look round on those militant churches that are within the circle of his acquaintance, and I believe he will acknowledge it is proof sufficient; the body and spirit of Jesus Christ is far beyond their human comprehension; this they confess, and well they may, for their system has forced him (who was the life of the world,) a local body and a local heaven, far beyond the starry regions:—how ignorant they are of the life giv-

ing power of love, and this body and spirit of Christ?

Calvin confessed (should any one ask him) that it was a secret too high for him to comprehend in his spirit, or to explain in words. See Berkeley's Apol. page 455.—Inst. Lib. 4, chap. 7, sect. 32. Well might he acknowledge this, for the body and spirit of Christ is that wisdom which the god's of this world never knew, and what they never knew they can never give, for that is the element of heaven; and selfishness, pride, wrath, and envy, are the elements of hell, and by these elements, the militant churches have ever been actuated, and foment divisions, seditions and tumults, among the deluded multitude, and breathe the most virulent persecutions against all who do not receive their contradictory systems of senseless jargon, which they themselves do not understand.

John Calvin was the founder of the Calvinistic reformed churches, who was cotemporary with the Pope; this he did in opposition to Luther. See Eccl. hist. vol. 4, page 363—4—370—5.

Now the flames of discord kindled between the Calvinists and Lutherans, with violence and fury, concerning the decrees of God set on foot by Calvin.

How those Apostolical descendants shew forth the spirit of Christ? Severe laws and punishments, violent tumults, sedition, imprisonment, banishment and death, were the fruits of that spirit by which they were both actuated. Such works were carried on in Germany and Switzerland, where their glorious reformation first began, also in England and France. Eccl. hist. vol. 4, page 341—2, and this division and spirit still exists between the two Protestant parties, and each still claims relation to its first founder.

This may serve as a specimen of the whole protestant religion, from beginning to end, viz. alluring names and titles, confessions of faith and forms of concord, manifestly false, specious professions of the religion of the Prince of Peace, the holy religion of the Peaceable Lamb, all contradicted by practice, maintained by vi-

olence, deceit and fraud, mingled with blood.

Children naturally follow the example of their parents in faith and practice, no wonder then, our militant churches are actuated by the spirit of their holy father (or Pa) and holy mother (or Ma) a vain religion, matter without substance. What is that protestant power by which they established their divided and contentious churches, but the beast that came up out of the earth, that had two horns like a lamb, and shaped like a dragon, his lamblike horn was religion, the whole succession of protestant priesthood, even the monks and friars, from whence they originated, made a great pretence to sanctity; they pretended to be all meekness and mildness, notwithstanding their hypocrisy; they had the voice of terror, like the Roman emperors, and were busily engaged like the first beast in destroying their fellow men. Is this the church of Christ? God forbid.

When their glorious reformation commenced, the ignorance of the

priests was extreme; numbers could not read, and the very best seldom saw a Bible; many doctors of the Sarbonne declared by oath, although they were above fifty years of age, they had never known what a New Testament was. (See Eccl. Researches, pages 538.) Are these the divinely inspired gentlemen appointed of God to fill the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ? ~~And~~ such churches to be called the church of Christ?—Are these the successors of the holy apostles? Are they not the successors of the thirteenth apostle?

Luther never saw a Bible until after he was twenty-one years of age, and had taken a degree in Arts, (and perhaps it was the black art.) Carlstadt had been a doctor of Divinity eight years before he read the scriptures; this was college divinity.—The catholic fathers corrupted and curtailed the scriptures, they made use of such of the sacred writings as would support them in their carnal views and reasonings, and vain philosophy, and rejected the rest. Is it not so at this day?

They did not write what they found but what they understood, and some they blotted out, for fear the hereticks would abuse it, and I am not very much obliged to them for so doing, and it seems as if our modern divines wish to blot out some if they could. Barclay says, whole verses were taken out of Mark; (see Barclay's App. page 80—81,) but Luther far surpassed the zeal and confidence of his father, in changing and corrupting every thing sacred, in order to maintain his inconsistent and pernicious solifidian system, (i. e. faith without works,) he rejected the whole epistle of James, and called it an epistle of straw; see the beginning of Luther's works, Ap. page 80—81, Armi. Mag. vol. 2d, page 283, Testimony of Christ's second appearing, page 304.

The scriptures had all along been preserved in the Catholic church, according to the edition formed in the Alexandrian school, which was a philosophical school, and they accepted of the christian system by a vote of the majority, and after this it was

called the divinity school, much the same as our colleges. Hence the Bible had to undergo another translation, which Luther commenced in the year 1521, and was assisted by Aurrogallus, a profane author; directly all the protestant states were furnished with this new vicar of St. Peter, and this was to be the infalible judge; (see Eccl. Hist. vol. 6, page 195.)—Thus the translation of the scripture was completed by two profane fellows. Is their translation better than the Pope's old corrupt Latin Bible, with seventeen books left out? (see Delaun's Plea.) Bishop Chalmer says, the first Protestants corrupted the scriptures in all their translations, to make it chime with their errors; (see Grounds of Catholic Doctrines.) Do they not in our day, endeavour to make the scriptures agree with their errors?

The Protestants condemn and anathematize all the Popish hierarchy, and their God, (the Pope or Pa) while on the other hand, the Papist condemn the Protestants, for an endless spawn of hereticks; the Protestants

sneer at the infallibility of the Pope; and the Papists sneer at the infallibility of the Protestant translation. Thus they formed and reformed the scriptures, into a thousand shapes, with as many supplies, mistranslations, notes, references, comments, paraphrases, and other appendages, as their doctors think proper. Is it not so at this day? We see the protestants (or militants) divide into a thousand parties, no two agreed, ever at war, and each goes into the combat with Luther's eternal word of God in his pocket. See Eccl. Hist. vol. 2d, page 90, note K. page 111, and 475.

They were taught to apply to the gentlemen of the Universities, to expound to them the word of God; and this mode and custom has been handed down, with an uninterrupted career, to the present day. Hence every thing sacred has been distorted into the last dregs of confusion. By their reforming power, the protestant priesthood charge the Popish clergy with the vilest hypocrisies, and maintain, that they are the identical ones

who departed from the faith, by giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their consciences seared with an hot iron, forbidding to marry, &c. and that they are the false Christs and false prophets, the wolves in sheeps clothing, dogs, sorcerers, whoremongers, hypocritical liars, and all the base characters spoken of in the New Testament, in fine that the Papal hierarchy is the horrible harlot, the church militant; while on the other hand, the Popish Doctors, who from a pretended apostolical succession, antiquity and universal authority, claiming the pre-eminence (Diotrophes like) very plausibly deny their forbidding to marry, for they acknowledge marriage to be one of the seven sacraments, (see Scot. Prot. confession, Art. 18th,) retort upon the protestants (or reformers) the same charge of apostacy, with all its base and licentious fruits; and indeed, unless the Protestants can prove that dogs and wolves can beget harmless sheep, the true Christ spring from a false one, and chaste daughters from a mother of

harlots, they have no reason to refuse taking to themselves every base and abominable character, which they have given the Popish doctors, by whom they were consecrated, (or canonized.)

Therefore the Protestants are justly charged by the Papists of producing an endless spawn of heresies; Bishop Taylor acknowledged in favour of the church of Rome. Neither is there any difference between the Papists and Protestants, for they both profess to be the kirk (or church) militant, and malignant, as will appear hereafter; they both have intimacy with sorcery, adultery, and practice false swearing, of whom God says he will be a swift witness against. See Malachi iii, 5.

Thus Anti-christ began his beastly works by Simon Magus and other sorcerers and continued it by an endless train of adulterers, & it remained to be completed by perjured persons, or false swearers; Bishop Chalmer says, Luther perjured himself when he married a nun. See ground of Cath. Doct. page 54. Ought we not

to reject his testimony and doctrine forever? For such characters would, by the civil law forever be debarred from giving testimony in any court of justice whatever; and this perjured Luther was a divine person who translated the scriptures. John Calvin was originally designed for the church, and of course, was under this oath of continency; and married a widow of an anabaptist of Strasburgh, and mixed with a people who was condemned by Papists and Protestants, and was counted by Luther no better than mad dogs.

The Protestants have increased to more ungodliness, and their works and doctrines have eaten out the very marrow of the gospel as doth a canker, and they are standing off from the faith of God, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils, speaking lies in hypocrisy, &c. as those apostate monks did before them; and this apostate priesthood has corrupted the civil government, with their hypocritical and obscene forms of religion; but every individual who has been called by the name of Pro-

testant, ought not to be ranked with those hypocritical liars.

The Protestants glory in high and superstitious titles, such as Lord (any inferior Magistrate) Sovereign Lord, Dread Sovereign Lord, &c. If we just look in our Bible on the title page we shall find a title as presumptuous as ever Pope sustained, i. e. to the Most High and Mighty Prince James, &c. Higher than the Most High cannot be, and the revenue lavished upon the profuse pontiff, was turned into a regular channel of salary, to support the luxury of the new kirk guides.

Here then is the origin of salaries; it does not come within 1000 years of the true church or church of Christ.—Did the Apostles ever constitute salaries? By no means. What a great change of priesthood the militant churches boast of? How zealous they are to this day, of supplying the common people with bibles? Their intention in this great exploit is, to have their fixed sense of scripture riveted in the minds of youth; this is the object of their Sunday schools, and in

their catholic sense of scripture, the world (especially the youth) are either drowned by eloquence, or frightened by the hideous din of eternal damnation and destruction from the presence of the Lord; there are fashions in divinity as well as in other things, they have reformed the practice of idolatry into another shape, they use consecrated water, wine and bread in their worship, and affirm that Christ (who is verily God) is thereby represented, sealed and applied to believers. See Amer. Camp. chapter 21.

They acknowledge Origen to be the first who introduced the practice of sermonizing upon the scriptures, and that the oldest psalmody they have, was introduced into the church in the reign of Constantine, and their scriptures prove that their standing and praying, to be seen of men, is an undeniable mark of a hypocrite.—What are their steeple houses but pagan temples, reformed and ornamented with pictures, pulpits, bells, and instruments of music? Can any thing manifest a greater blindness,

than to call this work of their own hands, the church of Christ, St. Paul's church, St. Peter's church, &c. ? Can Christ, St. Paul, or St. Peter, have any fellowship or union with such churches ?

The protestants, (or militants) pretend to abhor relics and images ; but what mean our costly marbles with epitaphs, that ornament our burying grounds, and the images of their illustrious characters, with their coin, their furniture, with which their houses are replete ? They abhor Popish titles, but after forming and reforming, from the most mighty, down the long list of lords, knights, barons, counts and earls, with their corresponding priestly titles, it remains even to this day, that the most humble grade of the clergy must be distinguished by the title of Reverend, or Reverend Sir, and the very lowest class of their church members must be Gentlemen and Ladies, each a Sir, a Mr. a Madam or a Miss : thus they feel important and proud of these worldly honors, vain ceremonies, pompous titles and flattering compli-

ments, so whatever the world is, the same are their churches, with only the superior advantage of a false religion and the most refined arts of deception.

Virtue never needed the varnish of superstitious ceremonies and atoning rites ; it was always vice and corruption that required long prayers, sermons, sacraments, and outward shows of sanctity, to change their native appearance, and ward off deserved condemnation ; notwithstanding all their outward changes and reformatations, they have only promoted a greater increase of wickedness ; and such fruits as these could not spring from a good tree.

An innumerable spawn of heresies have sprung up, endless dissensions, perpetual desire of changing, inconsistency in their doctrines, and in fine a visible change of manners for the worse : there are but few if any that are better for embracing their religion, and very many are changed for the worse notwithstanding they boast of a blessed reformation : no such reformation, say they, follows the U-

niversalist's preaching. God grant it never may.

Multitudes affront the public by their audacious irregularities, and many of them transgress with a frontless impudence, through the prospect of impunity, and have become ring leaders of excess and rioting, and the seats of injustice and iniquity. It is impossible to enumerate all their abominations, that are in the land, profaneness, uncleanness, drunkenness, excess, rioting, vanity in apparel, lying, deceit, railing, slandering, cursing, and arbitrary and uncontrolled oppression, and grind the face of the poor, have become ordinary and common sins, in fine, there is not a mark left of Rome-Pagan, but what may be found in those militant fighting churches. Whence proceeded such universal uncleanness? Not from the Apostles, neither from the church of Christ, but from the Samaritan church. Have they not encouraged all ranks, rulers and ruled, to serve their own bellies instead of the Lord Jesus Christ? And it is equally manifest, that these same Calvinists, who were

counted the most perfect reformers; who called themselves God's elect, and reprobated as vessels of wrath fitted for eternal damnation, Anabaptists and all others, who were not of the same Kirk, or church militant.

They are by their own pointed confession, unto every good work, reprobates; by professing to be the followers of Jesus Christ, and observers of the word of God, they most evidently speak lies in hypocrisy, when in reality they are lovers of themselves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, truce breakers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are as good as themselves, traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God, having a form of godliness, but deny the power thereof.

Thus the second beast has exercised all the powers of the first, before him. This abominable doctrine, says Mosheim, was descended from those times, when religion was to become an instrument of despotism, and a pretext for the exercise of malevolence, vengeance and pride, and is

used for the same purposes at this day. See Eccl. history, vol. 1, page 416.

It is evident from history, that the Protestants were actuated by the same persecuting spirit of vengeance, which had influenced the ungodly Ecclesiasticks, who were running mad with orthodoxy, under the papal power; it was one and the same spirit with the papist, that produced the Spanish court of inquisition. But as conscience is every where the throne of God, so every usurper of his throne is Anti-Christ; and who was more fit to set the example of binding conscience, and usurping the throne of God, than John Calvin, and Martin Luther?—In them the spirit of Anti-christ, found able advocates.

Bishop Chalmer states, that Luther was possessed of an implacable nature, rigidly self-willed, impatient of contradiction, and rough and violent in his declamations against those who dissented in the least from him. See Grounds of Cath. Doc. page 54. Hence from such a spirit might be expected, murder and banishment.—

Cardinal Hosius said, that Luther did not intend to make all mankind as free as himself, he only intended to free the priests from obedience to the Pope. Eccl. Researches, page 646.

It seems as if John Calvin and Martin Luther, were worse than savages or Turks, and were inspired by the devil: the blood stains of guiltiness will never be defaced, nor eradicated from their churches militant, for the butchering of the innocent: Luther abhorred the Anabaptist, and the same spirit is perceivable to this day.—Mosheim says, he would damn the Anabaptist. See Eccl. Researches, page 551.

Thus ~~they~~ proceeded by gibbet, fire and sword, to exterminate his fellow creatures from off the face of the earth, as he would mad dogs, his whole life well comports with the character he gives of himself, in his last will and testament, I am known (says he) in heaven, on earth, and in hell, and possess consequence sufficient for this demand, that my single testimony be believed, seeing that God of his fatherly compassion hath

entrusted me (although a damnable man and a miserable sinner,) with the gospel of his son, and hath granted that I should be so true and faithful in it, that many in the world have received it by me, as a doctor of the truth, while they contemn, with detestation, the bands of the Pope, Cæsar, Kings, Princes, Priests, yea of all devils; why then may it not suffice for this disposal of a small estate, if the testimony of my hand be affixed, and it can be said, Doctor Martin Luther God's notary, and witness of his gospel, wrote these things.

This is the boasting of that apostate monk that he might be so exalted as to suppose his word would be believed by all the world even those that were yet unborn, notwithstanding he was a perjured man; well might he say, that he was a damnable man, and of course he was a damnable christian, and what his followers were God knoweth. For him to state that God entrusted him with the gospel of his Son, makes him a liar and the truth was not in him. If this is the

source of the church of England, what better can the branches be? For as is the root so are the branches, altogether corrupt and abominable.

John Calvin drank of the same persecuting spirit with Luther, he was universal bishop (or acted as such) at Geneva, presided in the assembly of the clergy, and in the consistory, (or spiritual court and solemn meetings, of Popes and Cardinals) who punished hereticks of all kinds. See Eccl. hist. vol. 4, page 369, note (O,) page 366. Here were Beghards, and spirituals, (pious religions,) libertines, (hereticks who sprang up in Holland, A. C. 1520, from one Quintin a taylor, and one Copin,) and odious ones enough, that Calvin had an opportunity of proving that he possessed the same persecuting spirit, with which he was brought up, in his mother's house, and that he sucked the paps of the great whore of Babylon.

There was one Gruet declared Calvin to be the new Pope, for which he was condemned to death, in the year 1550. Mosheim gives him the same character, with Luther, there were

others who could not receive his doctrine of decrees, for which he drove them into banishment: Castilio was banished in 1554; a like fate befel Bolsic, for speaking against the decrees in 1551, but none gave him more trouble than Michael Servetus, a Spanish physician, in 1560, but Calvin, by intrigue, had him executed on the 27th of Oct. 1553, at Geneva.—See Eccl. Researches, page 341.

Robinson says, that many have attempted to apologize for Calvin; but who is John Calvin? Or what are his nostrums (or private opinions) which are but tyranny and murder, that the whole world should be drowned in the din of vain bubbling about him and his decrees, and secret will of God? Mosheim says that the Calvinists, Lutherans and Papists were united, forgetting their dissensions and joined their most vigorous councils and endeavours, in shedding the blood of hereticks. Eccl. hist. vol. 5, page 432—Matth. xii. 14, 26. How is it possible that any should be lead to believe that this kind of spirit and procedure came from the church of

Christ? Voltaire says that John Calvin wrote with his own hand to the marquis de Poet, high chamberlain, dated Sept. 30th, 1561, as follows:—Honour, glory and riches, shall be the reward of your pains; but above all, do not fail to rid the country of those zealous scoundrels, who stir up the people to revolt against us: such monsters shall be exterminated as I have exterminated Michael Servetus. Bloody Cain where is thy brother?—All that helps us at this day, is the civil authority.

All such as denied the Trinity and infant baptism, was either banished or suffered death. See Eccl. Researches, page 584. They were exercised with the same spirit of cruelty and injustice, which had influenced every ecclesiastical tyrant of every age, from Magus, Trephos, and the Alexandrian priesthood, down to the same Luther and Calvin, and it is easy to see, that satan was endeavouring to cast out satan.

We now examine England and America: so far we traced those boot-ed apostolick descendants, through

devastations, blood and carnage. The Protestants, says Hume, ventured to renounce opinions deemed certain through many ages, and was so attached to the new system that they would suffer no contradiction, and were ready to burn in the flames which they had so narrowly escaped, every one that dared differ from them. See Hume's *Hist. of Eng. Hen. VIII, Chap. 34.*—These hellhounds, (Luther, Calvin, the Arch-bishop and others,) were commissioned to examine and search after all Anabaptists, hereticks, or contemners of their prayer book, &c. and many were condemned to the flames whose names are too tedious to mention. There was a fine of twenty pounds sterling for being absent a month from church; commissioners were appointed (similar to our committees of safety,) to punish all breaches of uniformity in public worship, to make inquiry, in any way, by imprisonment, rack, or torture, &c. to reform errors, (satan casts out satan.) These ecclesiastical commissioners were subject to no control:—

this court was a real inquisition under a different form.

Thus the ministers of satan transformed, and the same spirit went from place to place, from creature to creature, and from the swine down to Luther, Calvin, and the rest of Protestant priesthood: in their national covenant, this kind of religion is called God's true religion, and perfect religion, (may God deliver the world from such a religion,) and all the subjects were bound by an act of Parliament, to recant all doctrines repugnant to the national covenant; and of course the gospel of Jesus Christ was wholly excluded, and kings, and princes were sworn to root out of the empire all hereticks. What difference is there between this and the holy apostolick inquisition of Spain?

Thus they went on butchering until the days of George Fox, who was a common subject of persecution, thousands were banished and slain, whilst the malicious priests used their utmost vigilance to detect the innocent, and influence the civil powers, with whom they shared the spoil,

their property being confiscated.—Greedy dogs! Many were kept in prison for not paying tithes to them, that was not sufficient, they sold them for bond slaves, and they still continue the practice; see the poor Africans! How they glory in building up their zion with blood and treasure.

These famous (or rather infamous) protestants who fled from persecution at home, and crossed the Atlantic, to find liberty of conscience, were called Puritans; they soon begun their horrid works of persecution, under the established hierarchy of gov. John Endicott, High Priest Norton, Wilson, & others differ only as a small stream differs from a flood; the same spirit prevailed, that was in the swine, and it would have been but just if they had all perished in the sea. The former cruelties were exercised, such as imprisoning, fineing, confiscation of goods, banishing, unmerciful scourging, burning with hot irons, cutting off ears and destroying the innocent lives of the Quakers, by the ignominious gallows; these detestable

scenes of more than savage barbarity commenced in the month of July 1656. Some were suspected of being witches, (two of a trade can never agree) and were barbarously used; (says Sewel) Endicott said take heed that you break not our ecclesiastical laws, for then you will be sure to stretch by the halter; Nicholas Upsal was fined twenty three pounds for not attending church. See Sewel's hist. page 168—169. Their high priest John Norton, said to William Brend, you endeavoured to beat our gospel ordinances black and blue, and it is but just upon you if you are beaten black and blue, and I will appear in behalf of him who does it. Bloody Priest! You discover your lamblike horn. Who will appear in your behalf at the tribunal of Almighty God?

Thomas Prince, governor of Plymouth, was heard to say, that the Quaker's wives and children deserved to be destroyed, houses and lands, without pity or mercy; the present persecutors of the poor Africans sprang from the priesthood, and they persevere without pity or remorse, but re-

member, that he that slayeth by the sword, shall die by the sword: The priest would look on and see the female victims, tied to the cart tail, and whipped severely through eleven towns, and laugh at the sport. See Sewel's Hist. page 272. This was done in Dover, state of New York, on Dec. 22d, 1662, in cold severe weather; two were put in the stocks because they plead for mercy for the poor sufferers.

By order of one of their priests, the poor Quaker's were dragged about by the heels, over logs and stumps, then ducked in water, and at midnight turned out of the house, in a cold night, obliged to suffer the inclemency of the weather, with their clothes frozen. Is this the race of people that call themselves the church of God, the children of God, saints, &c.? I have traced them correctly from Simon Magus, and they are amongst us, and in all this Israelitish travel they have lost nothing of their religion but their holy Apostolick inquisition; and I say, let them cease to disgrace the name of Jesus Christ,

for I fear they never knew him, but are the great grand children of those who killed the prophets, and the posterity of Cain; raging waves, foaming out their own shame.—Hist. of Redemp. page 4-8, and onward. Jesus said, ye are of your father the devil, and if the devil, (or Pope,) is their father, they are liars, for he is a liar and the father of it, and abode not in the truth.

Thus they established the christian world, upon the principles of false teachers, corrupt priests, bloody emperors, imperious Popes, and diabolical persecutors, including every ecclesiastical tyrant, of every age, from Constantine down to John Norton, and the rest of the Protestant priesthood, under governor Endicott.

This then is their glorious church which they represent, without spot or wrinkle, but far from having any unity with Christ or his church; and because I do not fellowship the doctrine of infant baptism and decrees, the secret will of God, &c. I am accused of not believing the gospel; they have chosen the easy way, and I the diffi-

cult; they have chosen the religion of this world, I despise it, and for no other cause, than believing in the doctrine of peace and good will; many are spoken evil of: the act of death and destruction is changed into sneering and jeering, scoffing, curling up the nose, sheering off, slandering, backbiting, &c. and is very fashionable and popular among those holy descendants; their lying spirit can convert a vain philosophy into a gospel, and a licentious priesthood into christian Apostles, and worse than Pagan hierarchy, into the church of Christ, and could corrupt the gospel by deceitful and mysterious language, and put a false colouring upon the practices of the more virtuous, to blind the eyes of the ignorant, and retain the world in the fatal snare of the devil, and thus form a thick veil of prejudice, to cover and hide the truth of the gospel.

The priesthood eat the bread of idleness, and monopolize the giving of instruction; they take away the key of knowledge, but virtue can never be changed into vice; they even boast of

superintending the providence of God, yet many were driven from mountain to mountain, and from valley to valley, for many thousand years past; and thus they founded their authority on a claim of being descendants from Jesus and his Apostles; but it is evident from their own writings, that they are the very sink of corruption, calamity, and cruelty to mankind.—What better are our militant churches than their predecessors, while they maintain the same faith, same principles of government, and the same manners exist in all their churches? They make use of human power and authority to christianize the world, for as many as they can sprinkle they consider as belonging to their church, and thus secretly are led captive at their wills; and what is their laying on of hands but a mock to God and man? They manifestly shew their disposition, to seize the old despotick reins, and rule the church and world in one, had they the opportunity;—and I hope the infidels and freethinkers of the present day will justly hold them in suspicion, for they continual-

ly act the harlot, who willingly changes her dress to win her lovers, and her pitiful crocodile prayers are, O that the world would fall in love with me, and that nations might be born in a day, and kingdoms at once.

The American churches (or harlots) have been put to the trouble of new modeling their creeds, so as to suit the government under the mask of liberty, and we don't thank those ecclesiastical tyrants for liberty of conscience; the world never was nor ever will be benefited by such a consecrated priesthood, nor such a christian religion; this kind of false christianity has been for many ages kept alive amidst all the abominations which have overspread the christian world; the last covering they have for their benign gospel and saving faith, is to divide their gross errors, and immoralities, among divided sects and party names; thus they endeavour to preserve their common profession unspotted, they reproach one another with the title of popish tyrant, protestant persecutor, presbyterian liar, drunken seceder (one who

withdraws,) baptist knave, and methodist whoremonger; this kind of religion is disdained and held in contempt, by the wild savages; christian religion, (say they) devil religion, christian much drunk, christian much do wrong, much beat, much abuse others.

They need not refer to the Bible for proof to support their religion, as coming from the church of Christ, for there is no proof there for them; but they will find it in their creeds and confessions of faith, and what is marvelous, it is called genuine christianity (see American confession of faith, chap. 6th, and onward,) and is used as a suitable pretext for all their aggravated sins, like laying hold of the horns of the altar, to be freed from any crime whatever, and if any will hop into the church they think they are safe from the world's people;—John Wesley, George Whitfield and others talked of christian perfection, and the possibility of living without sin in this world; no stream can rise higher than its fountain, and I question John Wesley's perfection if his

own words are to be believed ; on his passage from America to England, January 1738, he writes his Journal as follows : I went to America to convert the Indians, but Oh ! who shall convert me ? Who, what is he that will deliver me from this evil heart of unbelief ? I have a fair summer religion, I can talk well, nay, and believe myself while no danger is near, but let death look me in the face and my soul is troubled ; nor can I say, to die is gain. The day he landed at Deal, in England, he writes, it is now two years and almost four months, since I left my native country in order to teach the Georgian Indians the nature of christianity ; but what have I learned myself in the mean time ? Why (what I the least of all suspected,) that I who went to America to convert others, was never myself converted to God. I am not mad 'though I thus speak, but I speak the words of truth and soberness, if happily some of those who still dream may awake and see, that as I am so are they, &c. This, then have I learned in the ends of the earth, that

I am fallen short of the glory of God, that my whole heart is altogether corrupt and abominable, and consequently my whole life. Seeing it cannot be that an evil tree should bring forth good fruit, then it follows that if this great branch of the church of England, and his fruit were both corrupt and abominable (he was never cut off from his union with that church) that none of those branches which derived their sap and nourishment from him, would be any better ; I hope the branches that descended from him will remember, that as the root is so are the branches, altogether corrupt and abominable.

It is evident that the world in general is under the darkness and deception of Anti-christ at this day, and is in as deplorable a state of corruption as ever, but under different forms and shapes, who are sunk into sensuality and brutishness, more than those militant churches, among whom are found all manner of abominations, and wickedness ; even the very name of christian stinks in the nose of Savages, Turks and Jews ; the heathen

in many respects have behaved themselves incomparably better, towards God and their neighbours than the generality of those that are denominated christians. See Fowler's designs of Christianity, P. 143—144.

Whole nations were christianized by crossing the forehead with a little water; thus they received the mark of the beast—and Luther and Calvin constituted this beast. Blood and fire was dispensed with, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and no one is entitled to any privilege in the churches, except they have received the mark in the forehead or in their right hand; this mark the Anabaptist and others refused, and it was soon decreed that they should be rooted out of the land; although they are God's children, they will not take each others word for truth unless under the solemnity of an oath, and are always endeavouring to build up their own characters, on the ruins of others; and the most cunning and artful in this practice are considered praiseworthy.—Thus they consider themselves bet-

ter than others, and highly favoured of God, and many join them to avoid persecution. Thus they are deceived by the influence of Anti-christ!

Are these the professors of christianity and church of Christ, (see Fox's Journal, vol. 1st, page 176,) who paint themselves with the prophets', Christ's and apostles' words?—Most fair whited walls, painted sepulchres, murderers of the just, ye are, whose eyes are double, your minds are double, your hearts are double; ye flatterers! repent; and turn from your carnal ends, which are full of mischief, pretending God and godliness, taking him for your cloak, but God will uncover you in due time:—He will make you bare, discover your secrets, take off your crown, take away your mantle and your veil, and destroy your clothing, that your nakedness may appear, how you set deceiving the world; the better now begin to rejoice over you; the beast, the dragon, the false prophet, the seducer, the hypocrite, the mother of all harlots, (all of whom belong to the false church,) their eyes being full of

adultery, they cannot cease from evil, they are those, who live in pleasure upon earth, who glory not in the Lord (or gospel, or doctrine of God,) but in the flesh, (or doctrines about and concerning earthly things, doctrines of devils. See Fox's Journal, vol. 1, page 176, 179.

People are led astray by popularity and are deceived, therefore fall under condemnation of those who had clothed themselves with the words of Christ and his apostles; amongst the many thousands of the best of christians, there are few but what are horribly warped by Anti-christ's intrigues. See Griffith's Journal, page 108.

Therefore no true church can exist or be established until the reign of Anti-christ be at an end; furthermore this is yet the time of Anti-christs dominion, but I believe the dominion of the beast is near at an end, one century more will complete it, (I hope) and then the beastly kingdom must be put down, and his princely power of darkness will be overthrown and overturned, until he

who is to reign over the nations of the earth, shall appear.

But the beast has been established on his throne of rebellion, against Christ Jesus; all this traditional worship, and false imitations which have been set up since the Apostles days, will be soon overthrown & confounded; the Lord will dash down and overthrow all this idolatry, now practiced among our militant churches; for Anti-christ must fall, likewise false ministry and worship, false power and false churches, the Lord will lay low; and truth and righteousness must reign, and the whole fabrick of false divinity and superstition must fall, in due time, and may God hasten the glorious period.

Ever since liberty of conscience was granted, sects and parties have been dissolving asunder, and removing more distant from the mother church, and each other, and their points of faith, doctrines, discipline and government, creeds, confessions, prayer books, &c. are passing away with a great noise, and the elements of which they are composed, are melt-

ing away with fervent heat, so that every attempt to reform, unite together, and repair, serves only to widen the breach, and hasten the final dissolution of the whole; and it is true, that as a people, we are the descendants of our holy father, (the Pope) and of our holy mother, (the church) and that we have followed, and do still follow their pernicious ways; by which the truth is evil spoken of, and is good evidence that our present militant churches do not possess but a small share of the doctrines of Christ and the holy Apostles, but are living upon the words and good speeches of their ancient fathers, while destitute of their life and power; and from true and spiritual worshippers, they have become open and secret idolaters; (see Griffith's Journal, page 61) and by the failure of false prophecy, the blind and incredulous, have disputed the testimony of the true prophets; therefore their benign orthodox gospel, has been the sole cause of thousands disbelieving the truth, and such are sentenced to endless damnation; thus they compass the

sea and land to make proselytes, and they make them two fold more the children of hell, than themselves. Mat. xxiii. 15. (A sample of this nature may be seen in the World's Doom, or the Cabinet of Fate Unlocked.) The temporal dominion of the Pope, (Wm. Mavor says) was first founded in rebellion, (see Mavor's Hist. vol. 7 page 177) and of course are a rebellious crew, lying children, that will not hear the law of the Lord.

Niciphorus Phocas, was united in the popular opinion; he was thought worthy of the merit of an hero, and a saint, and his religion was only assumed as a mask to conceal his real designs, to catch the favours of the biggoted and the weak. Mavor's hist. vol. 7 page 198. Is it not so at this day with our churches? The designs of the clergy are concealed for the purpose of obtaining favours of the pompous biggots of the world, and what I have recited is the general character of the present New Testament churches, that by giving heed to Jewish fables, and doctrines of devils, have apostatized from the faith and

doctrines of the true church, which I consider to be the Apostolical church; and if they have apostatized, it is absurd to call the present churches, the Church of Christ.

For 1530 years the Jewish nation was called the church of God, (or God's people) her governors, were Prophets, Priests and Levites, and the visions of God were frequent to church guides, and these and other useless ceremonies were called Jewish fables, and the New Testament church were forbidden to give heed to them; notwithstanding they became deaf to the Apostle's entreaties, and did receive the Jewish doctrines and fables into their church, and justly forfeited their name, as the church of Christ, also as being descendants; and when they plead their descent, they must know that they have apostatized, and are under the dominion of Anti-christ; for the Apostles told them if they did not continue in the goodness of God, they should be cut off like the Jews, (see Romans xi. 22) and after Christ's resurrection, the church was erected in her gospel

form, and the ceremonial rites of the Old Testament church were abolished, and ordinances instituted more easy and simple.

During the Apostolick age, the christian church was glorious beyond description, they lived righteously, and godly, were lovers of mankind and one another, no murdering of others for difference of sentiment, they were exercised with honesty, meekness, prudence, impartiality, &c. and can this be said of our militant churches? By no means.

The first persecution began in A. D. 66, under Nero, before the false (or Jewish) church was dissolved, which took place soon after, at the destruction of Jerusalem. In the year 120, Trajan raised another persecution, and a vast number of christians were murdered by the Jewish rebels; these persecutions, and the different sects, with their doctrines, especially the Gnosticks, the works of Simon Magus, produced a famine, (says the Rev. Dr. Brown,) of the pure preaching of the gospel; they began to hold councils from A. D. 260 to 302 a-

gainst hereticks, and schismatics, (such as separated from the church of their own accord,) another persecution commenced under Dioclesian, which lasted ten years, and extended to the whole christian church under the power of the empire.

In this persecution the christians, chiefly the ministers were scourged to death, had their flesh torn off with pincers, and mangled with broken pots, they were cast unto wild beasts, beheaded, crucified, burned, drowned, torn to pieces between trees, roasted by gentle fires, and some by holes made in their bodies, had melted lead poured into their bowels: in Egypt alone, it was said one hundred and forty thousand were destroyed by violent deaths, seven hundred thousand by banishment and hard labour, and the copies of the scriptures burned. The persecutors thought they had entirely and effectually ruined the religion of Jesus Christ. In the reign of Constantine, the christians were called orthodox, and Julian the apostate, did all he could to abolish christianity and establish idolatry.

Thus about A. D. 606, the christian church entered into her wilderness state and was trodden underfoot and broke to pieces and will continue so 1260 years, of which remains about fifty years more, to the accomplishment of her time: during all this time, the christian church has been, and will be under the absolute power and dominion of Anti-Christ, as has been already exhibited; nor could a sagacious observer say, what the most of the members of the churches of our world, have for their religion, from pole to pole, except a regard to saints, pictures, relicks, baptisms, sacraments, &c. with other vain embellishments, and continual strife, quarrelling, slandering, &c. they have more of necromancy than of religion; auricular confessions, renders priests proud, it admits them to secrets, and gives them occasion for their scandalous intrigues with women; all these things are familiar to our senses, and who can deny it?

The clergy have become begging monks, which was invented by the devil; about 1511 the scriptures were

almost unknown, and men's doctrines not tried by them, but by false miracles, and lying wonders; religion was quite oppressed by wicked and foolish traditions, piety buried in Jewish, heathen, and magical superstition, their worship chiefly consisted in adoring the bread in the sacrament, the Virgin Mary, departed saints, pretended relicks, pardon of sin, or indulgence in it, right of calling ministers, and every thing sacred were set to sale, in pride, oppression, covetousness, blasphemy, and lewdness; the clergy were next to finished infernals, they drank in a system of blasphemy not much different from that of Mahomet, they made human reason the standard for trying revelation; the false church was actually pregnant with all sorts of sectaries and diabolical events; it was this kind of church that invented John Calvin's system, which doctor John Brown says is much nearer the Papist, than any of their Protestant brethren.

At present, says the Doctor, the condition of Protestant churches are

such, by reason of the prevalence of ignorance, contention, and licentiousness, among all ranks, and of negligence and profaneness of clergymen, that one can hardly say, whether they seem fastest returning to Popery or to heathenism; to return to Popery and heathenism when they are actually in it, would be impossible; they now manifest all the inhuman conduct of the heathen, for they are heathen by original descent, as every one must confess; we are Gentiles, and Gentiles are heathen, therefore it is easy to see that the Gentiles, through a sort of blind zeal for religion have been changed from bad to worse, and it is no better than blasphemy to call our churches the church of Christ.

Thus (if we credit the words of the Rev. Dr. Brown) we find the churches that the Apostles built up, wholly swallowed by Judaism, Mahometanism, and heathenish superstitions;—and what reason have we for denominating the present churches the church of Christ? See Brown's Bible Dictionary, his description of the churches both false and true, Jew and Gentile.

St. Paul considers the Corinthian church to be the temple of the living God, for after the death of Christ, the Temple at Jerusalem, never was called by the Apostles the Temple of God, and this Temple of God spoken of in 1st Cor. iii. 16—17, is called the church of Christ, and no doubt St. Paul considered it his duty to forewarn his church of the great apostacy that would infest the church, for the mystery of iniquity was already working, and was making its intrusions, and stealing into the church of Christ, and that it would rise to credit and authority, and by magical skill, this lawless one (or man of sin,) deceived many, the Samaritans first, after that the Romans; the Gnostick heresy, founded by Magus, was a great departure from the faith, this was before the Apostles gave over preaching to the Jews; and all the people from the least unto the greatest considered Magus as a God, and at Rome he was honoured as a God; this was giving heed to Jewish fables and doctrines of devils, and the second cen-

tury was called the age of the Gnosticks.

The apostacy produced this man of sin, and he supports the apostacy (or idolatry) and is to set in the temple of God (the church) and I believe that he is in our militant churches yet; in this sense they can boast of being the church of Christ, but they are wolves in sheep's clothing; there was a voluntary humility of worshipping Angels in the Collossian church, (see Col. ii 18) and strife and division in the church at Corinth, (see 1st Cor. iii. 3.) adulterating and handling the word of God deceitfully. 2d Cor ii. 17. & iv. 2. A gain of godliness, and teaching for filthy Lucre's sake. 1st Tim. vi. 5. Titus i. 11. A vain observation of festivals. Gal. iv. 10. A vain distinction of meats, (1st Cor. viii. 8.) neglecting of the body (or church) [Col. ii. 23] traditions, commandments, and doctrines of men, (Col. ii. 8. 22.) with other corruptions and innovations; and what hindered the immediate appearing (or coming) of the man of sin, was the Roman government, and when the Roman

Emperor was taken out of the way, the Bishop of Rome advanced to authority, and the Catholick doctors have asserted, that their church, is the true church of Christ.

There has been printed (says Bishop Newton) in London, so lately as in the year 1756, a book entitled *Miraculous Power of the Church of Christ*, asserted through each successive century from the Apostles down to the present time, and the author draws the conclusion that the Catholick is the true church of Christ, (see Newton's *Dissertation*, 9th edition, vol. 2, page 108) but the learned bishop declares it to be the church of Anti-christ in full growth; therefore some of the members of the Apostolic Church, was left to believe a lie for it is plain that they did not continue in his goodness (or gospel) therefore was cut off from their union with Christ, for tyranny and murder, falsehood and error, are Anti-christ any where, and the works of Anti-christ are well known in all our orthodox and militant churches at this day, which are the seed of the serpent, and

is the very head which Christ is to bruise, notwithstanding our militants suppose their churches and gospel eternal; so did the Romans, and what is the difference in their churches? They both assume the power of God and man, they, both Protestants and Papists pretend to give the keys of death and hell, and of power to bind in heaven, (Ecclesiastical churches) and on earth, (civil government) and vainly suppose, they are the instruments of salvation, and it is so here and it is so there. Gregory called the Pope the king of pride.

An army of priests are ever endeavouring to stifle the true idea of Anti-Christ, one will say, it is I, and another it is I, and thus vainly would have the world believe, that Anti-Christ is not yet revealed; but it is to be remembered, that Anti-Christ ariseth out of the nest of the clergy, and each perhaps may think, it cannot be me nor my bedfellow; but who exhibit more the spirit of pride than the clergy? Is not this spirit of pride, a true begotten of the King of Pride? Then it follows of course,

that the whole race of priesthood, from Magus to this day, are a lordly set of Anti-Christ, and their principal object and employment has been, and is now, to make beautiful hypocrites.

The Protestants charge the Pope of Rome of being the Anti-Christ, and the Papists say that Anti-Christ belonged to the Turks, (Mahomet.)—Thus they cast it about, no one willing to own the title, but willing to have his power, and preach his doctrines, and take pleasure in unrighteousness, because they receive not the love of truth. Idolatry in the Old Testament church was called apostacy, therefore instead of the church of Christ and his doctrines being continued to our day, it is the continuation of the Jewish church and fables, and as there were false prophets among the children of Israel, so there shall be false teachers among christians who shall bring the like damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, professing to be His servants, and denying Him to be their Lord, by applying to other Lord's and mediators, (Laics, Laymen, ministers

appointed to baptize who have not received holy orders.

The Jewish church worshipped a golden calf, and said this be the God that brought us up out of the land of Egypt—1st Kings, xii. 23—so there are christians at this day, who worship their redeemer in an image, or crucifix, and sacramental bread; and for many ages this kind of worship has overspread the church of Christ: the apostacy is the same, says Newton, in both churches, (Jews and christian) and is not much altered yet; See Diss. vol. 2, page 123. St. Paul was fearful of the departing of the Hebrew church from the living God, or apostatizing from the living God, or doctrines of God,—see Heb. iii. 12. by giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils, and if our militant churches have not given heed to those doctrines, then they are better and more highly favoured of God than the Apostolick churches were.

Furthermore, we are sure they have apostatized, when they preach and argue for God's truth, that the devil is eternal and infinite, and that hell

is of an endless duration, and that misery will exist equal with God, all these doctrines and many more are the doctrines of the Jews, Turks and heathen, yet they affirm, that they are of the true church (or body) of Christ; prayers for the recovery of the sick, was practiced in the Gentile church, (or Greeks) and that is practiced at this day. There are but few or no marks of the true church to be found in our militant churches at this day.

Plato and Hesiod, concur, and affirm, that when good men die they attain to great honour and dignity, and become Demons, (or Mediators;) is not this the very doctrine at this day, that all good men at death are seated at the right hand of God, and enjoy his favours forevermore? The heathen believed in good and evil demons, so also the christians believe in good and evil angels, (see Newton, vol. 2, page 126—7,) and these evil angels are ever endeavouring to hinder good men from the pursuits of virtue. Is not the doctrine the same at this day? Judge ye.

St. Paul accused the Athenians of

being too superstitious, viz. too much addicted to the worship of devils—Acts xvii. 22. He exhorts the Corinthians to flee from idolatry, 1st Cor. x. 14, 20, 21. It seems as if idolatry ruined all the apostolick churches, for they are entirely extinct. Where are the seven churches now? They are all extinct, swallowed in this idolatrous apostacy, and are not known by the name of the church of Christ, in short, almost the whole of Paganism converted into papacy, and Popery into christianity, which seems to be manifestly one, formed upon the same plan and principles, so that there is a conformity and uniformity, of ancient and modern Pagans and christians, and all are called the children of God, saints and the like; the great boast of our militant churches is carnal humility, and spiritual pride, which is the imp and spawn of Anti-Christ; so lived the monks, and by their pretended purity they procured the greater reverence of their persons. Is it not the same with our modern monks and friars? Under the name of Christ they introduce Anti-Christ and his

malevolent doctrines, and engage many private persons in their cause, and lead captive millions of silly women, servants and slaves, and no people are more industrious in compassing sea and land to make proselytes.

Hath not the candlestick (or light of the gospel) been long removed out of its place, and all the churches ruined? Mahomedanism still prevails, where once the benign gospel of Jesus Christ and the Apostles, flourished, and was the glory of the world. Their churches turned into mosques, and their worship into superstition.

Why cannot the seven churches of Asia boast of being the churches of Christ, as well as our militant, (or orthodox) churches? Bishop Newton considers them wholly ruined, and swallowed up in heathenism. See 2d vol. page 164—5. Laodicea was a flourishing church anciently, which is utterly destroyed, their accusation was lukewarmness, proud, and self-conceited, they thought themselves much better than they really were. Are not these the very accusations against our militant churches? And

our Saviour can with as much propriety spew them out of his mouth, as he did the Laodiceans.

These objects (says Wheeler) ought to make us tremble and contend earnestly from whence we are fallen, and do daily fall from bad to worse; and it has been my study for many years to find out the deception of the clergy, they directed me to the bible, I applied to it, and have found full proof that the present clergy are the vicars of Anti-Christ, and my study has gained me the name of ungodly wretch, a worthless man in society; all because their influence is weakened and their hypocrisy exposed; thus we see the destruction that is brought upon the earth, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

When will the river of their eloquence be dried up? The bottomless pit was opened, and darkness (in consequence of false religion,) has darkened the whole earth; this false religion is the smoke that arose out of the bottomless pit, (i. e. no solid foundation, sandy,) thus it is with our militant churches, they raise a horrible

smoke of fire and brimstone, (which was used by Pope Pius V, in the pulpit) which terifies the principal part of the world to this day, and are the mystical locusts, which are truly infernal, and proceed with the smoke from the bottomless pit, (or church of Rome,) there is some dispute with historians, concerning the king of the bottomless pit; whether it is Mahomet or the Pope of Rome; I believe the Pope to be, for his religion and conduct was more cruel and cursed, for thousands fled to Mahomet's dominions for protection, besides this Mahomet never pretended a lamb-like disposition as did the Pope, for he openly declared, that Jesus Christ was sent to persuade men to heaven, and himself as the last of God's revelations to man, was to force men to heaven by the sword.

How many tares the enemy has sown in this night of Popery, these hell-brands were sunk in profligacy, superstition and ignorance, and the church of Rome and her daughters, may justly be called a stinking carcase, and fruitless fig tree, which

Christ hath cursed and commanded to be rooted up.

The first crusade was proclaimed by christians against christians, and the inquisition was erected the one to subdue their bodies, the other to enslave their souls; and in France a million were slain. Do the children of God commit such hellish barbarities? Is this the priesthood that Christ settled upon his Apostles? It looks more like the mendicant's religion, which was invented by the devil; they are the dragon's angels which fought against Michael and his angels; this is the great war in heaven, Christ and Anti-Christ; this war is still visible in the temple of God, (or church,) 1st Cor. iii, 16; likewise our bodies may be considered the temple of God—1st Cor. vi. 19, and Anti-Christ was said to set in the temple of God; then it follows beyond all contradiction, that every individual has more or less of this spirit of Anti-Christ in himself; for the war is manifest more or less to every creature, and if we yield ourselves servants to Anti-Christ's doctrines, we

are his servants, and it would be blasphemy in me, to call myself a child of God, saint, beloved of the Father, &c. and as our churches preach the doctrines of Anti-Christ wholly, they are and must be his servants, and ought not to be called by that endearing appellation, but are justly entitled to their militant name, for that befits their characters; and this heavenly war is in our militant churches with the beast and false prophet at their head, which includes the Popes, Simon Magus, and Mahomet, for their doctrines are intermixed; says John the revelator, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, (by Babylon is meant Rome.) See Rev. xiv, 8—Diss. vol. 2, page 194—195.

This sentence was passed on Babylon, or Rome, because she made all nations to drink of the wine of her wrath (or fornications,) a kind of circean cup to inflame mankind to spiritual fornication, and hath made the whole earth drunk with her wine, and are mad. This seems to be the spirit of our militant churches, but God will destroy them, who have destroyed the

earth. (Ps. 101—8.) He that worketh deceit shall not dwell in my house. (Ps. 101—7.) Do not all our militant churches work deceit? How ought they then to be called the church of Christ? When church and state are blended together, and hath her earth, seas, rivers, and sun, (see Diss. vol. 2, page 304,) and instead of repenting they are more hardened like Pharaoh and still persist in their apostatized doctrines, and cursed practices, and obstinately withstand the truth; who are still under, the guidance and influence of their agents, the dragon, (the representative of the devil) the beast, (the representative of the Anti-christian empire,) the false prophet, (who is the representative of Anti-christian church,) as disagreeable and loquacious as Mungus, and as impudent as frogs, in stirring up religious wars and controversies; and all those evil spirits and agents will be gathered together into one place, called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon, (that is, the mountain of destruction;) these three unclean spirits like frogs, (Mr. Mann conceives them to be the

Dominiceans, Franciscans, and Jesu-
ites, a certain order of friars,) and the
element of these frogs is water,
hence water baptism is one of the
seven sacraments of the Roman church.
How they delight in water—See New-
ton's Diss. vol. 2, page 308.

Those militant churches will soon-
er be destroyed, than reform; and St.
John was called to see the condemna-
tion and destruction of the great whore
that sitteth upon many waters, (or
people,) and the nations are mad in
consequence of her fornication, which
is idolatry; and the filthiness of her
fornication has reference to alluring
arts: Do we not see the working of
the same spirit in all our churches,
without an exception, practicing and
using every artifice of fraud and de-
ception, that is possible for the devil
to invent? The holy false church
prides herself in mysteries; her reli-
gion is a mystery, a mystery of ini-
quity, and boasts of Rome Papal be-
ing the city of God, as did the Jews of
Jerusalem, and was supposed to be e-
ternal.

Who can help seeing the likeness

in all our churches to this day? How
mysterious are all their doctrines?—
The more mysterious the more sacred;
none but the elect can digest these
mysteries, and the non-elect are pre-
destinated to endless and remediless
ruin, and must be predestinated from
all eternity. What great partiality
in God! This word mystery, was
written in letters of gold, upon the
forepart of the Pope's mitre; (so
Scaliger affirms) from hence is deriv-
ed all those mysteries in our militant
churches, that has so puzzled and
distracted the whole world to this
day.

This kind of religion was, and is
not, and yet is, and doth ascend from
the bottomless pit, (as I have before
observed) and it is the same idolatrous
power continued to this day, and in
this form shall ye go into perdition,
in consequence of persecuting the true
church of Christ.

Bellarmin says, the Catholick
church was composed of all sorts of
believers, in all ages, places and na-
tions, and all kinds of men. What
man is there among us but what will

acknowledge this truth, that the world is at present attached to all sorts of doctrines? Therefore it cannot be said that the churches at this day, are the churches of Christ, for the church of Christ has one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and will have but one doctrine; and this one doctrine will prevail against all others; and the hands that help to raise this false church, shall help pull her down, and the kings of the earth shall bewail her, and she shall become a desolation, owls dwell therein, and satyrs (or devils) dance therein; what a hooting and howling there is in this night of Popery? How the demoniac's dance? who were supposed sometimes to take the shape of goats, (or satyrs) and haunt desolate places. How these militants are haunted with witches, hobgoblins, and ghosts: are these the descendants of the Apostles?

True believers are victorious over all these infernal spirits; the smoke of this false church has risen up forever and ever, (or from age to age) this same smoke (or false doctrines)

has haunted the true church and its believers, through every age, from Adam to this day, and is a signal monument of divine vengeance, as Sodom and Gomorrah, Jerusalem, &c. until the powers of Anti-christ shall be completely subdued, and the religion of Rome be totally destroyed; and on such the second death shall have no further power; (the second death is the Jewish term for punishment of the wicked after death, so saith bishop Newton, vol. 2. page 336.) and we have no further authority for the term than its coming from a false church. Let Reuben live and not die, (not die the second death, so saith the paraphrase of Onkelos page 336) and in the same Chaldea paraphrase and Jewish writings, it is declared to be the same as the lake burning with fire and brimstone. xx. 14.—xxi. 8.

Notwithstanding this whorish apostasy Christ shall have those heathens for his inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for his possession; then Jesus Christ will abolish the wicked one and change the sun (the Catholick gospel) the moon, (Papal

power) the stars (the deceived) then he shall rest gloriously on the seventh day (or millenium) and all wickedness shall be abolished out of the earth, (or militant churches) there hath and doth still exist a tyranical, idolatrous and blasphemous power, in pretence christian, but in reality Anti-christian, and partly by menaces, (or threats) and partly by flatteries, those self-styled clergy, have obtained an entire ascendancy over the world of mankind, so as to have them zealous members of their communion, blindly devoted to their interest, and ready on all occasions, to fight their battles. And it is nothing more than what was foretold by the prophets; and power was given him (the Beast) over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. Rev. xiii. 7. And these are the same that shall be blessed in the new covenant, made with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, (see also this new covenant, Jer. xxxi. 31—34, &c.) Also the clergy at this day are possessed with a great degree of authority over the purses and consciences of men, as may be seen by

their sumptuous buildings and noble endowments of the choicest lands; all this came directly from the church of Rome. See Diss. vol. 2. page 362. They do not scruple to promote their religion by all manner of lies, and pious frauds, their solemn vows, (or oaths) they do not keep free from equivocation, their promises they disregard, notwithstanding, they feign would effect the appearance of lambs, in meekness and sanctity, but are ravening wolves, with fury and violence; and would if in their power, exclude all differing from them, from the civil intercourse of life.

The clergy to this day are studious to maintain their spiritual sovereignty, by secret plots, and open draggoonings, thereby compelling many to their standard through fear, and are caught with guile; and in this great church militant is found the blood of prophets, of saints and of all that were slain upon the earth, thus the Jewish church is included and incorporated with this great militant church, and she hath at present many more children than the true church;

this corrupt church of Rome, is the natural issue and descendant of the Pharisees, and all the woes denounced against the Jewish church, are applicable to the Roman church; for they both bind heavy burdens, grievous to be borne, doing all their works to be seen of men, shutting the kingdom of heaven against men, they neither go in themselves, neither suffering them who are entering to go in, devouring widow's houses, and for a pretence making long prayers, compassing sea and land, to make one proselyte, and after made is two fold more the child of hell than themselves; making useless and frivolous distinctions, observing pastime duties, and omitting weightier matters of the law judgement, mercy and faith; making clean the outside, but within full of extortion and excess, outwardly appearing righteous unto men, but within being full of hypocrisy and iniquity; they are not to blame for that father's did say they, but I reply, as did the Jews so do ye; building the tombs of the prophets, and garnishing the sepulchres of their righteous, honouring

their dead saints, and at the same time persecuting the living, say, and do not, is the common trait of all our militant churches; such are the errors and abuses which crept into the Apostolick church, and wasted it to this day, and is publickly taught and practiced, as every sensible person can witness.

St. Paul said be not highminded but fear, otherwise thou shalt be cut off; thus he addressed the church at Rome; (Rom. xi. 20—2.) and I believe the churches founded by the Apostles, by not adhering to the precepts of the gospel, are cut off from that union and fellowship, which otherwise they would have enjoyed; had they adhered to the instructions given by St. Paul; and are alienated and enemies, by wicked works, and ought not to be called the church of Christ.

These filthy dreamers though covetous make merchandize of men, (Africans) turn the grace into lasciviousness, despise the flesh; (or others) these are they who separate themselves (or are elected) sensual; such

have not the spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ; these are the corruptions of the last days, and is too much the character of all christian professors at this day.

Such are the general intimations of popery, and it is prevalent in our world as is seen by their bulls anathemias, interdicts and excommunications; they appear very stout and speak great swelling words, setting themselves up above the common people, willing to slander and persecute others, that differ from them, teaching for doctrines, the commandments of men. Such I think cannot be disputed, is nearly the case with all our militant churches in this our day.

Heathen persecuting christians was not the wonder which St. John saw, it was to see christians shed the blood of christians, it was indeed a wonder of wonders, and the woman (or true church) fled long since into the wilderness, there to be fed one thousand two hundred and three score days, which time has not yet elapsed, and beyond all contradiction, there is not

a church on earth that can justly be called the church of Christ; (Rev. xii. 6. 14.) unless it can be said that they are the church of Christ after they are given into the hands of Anti-christ, and if the apostolical church can be called the church of Christ after they are under the power and dominion of Anti-christ; then it follows of course, beyond all contradiction, that all mankind compose the church of Christ, in as much as the apostacy has passed on all men, small and great, rich and poor, bond and free; and at the end of 1260 years, the kingdom of Anti-christ shall be destroyed forevermore; then of course, all mankind will be emancipated forever more, sin finished, and an end made to transgression; (Daniel ix. 24.) this great church militant, shall sink like a great millstone in the sea, and then shall they know that I am the Lord their God; and the kingdoms of this world shall become the kingdoms of our Lord, & of his Christ, the Heavens shall pass away, (or militant churches) although the Pope's struggles and efforts are like those of a dy-

ing monster, yet he will never rise again to power and credit, therefore the gospel will prevail over all enemies and opposers, for on whomsoever it fall, it will grind him to powder

Glory to the most high God! Hast thou given us such a deliverance as this? Thus we find the Apostolick church, wholly swallowed up in popery, but have encouragement to believe that that the Lord Jesus, by his gospel will deliver us ere long from the worship of Demons; Angels or departed Saints which have been promoted through hypocrisy of liars; we see the seven churches of Asia, lying in the same forlorn and destitute situation, wholly ruined and extinct, and our orthodox militant churches bear the same likeness, and there is no likeness of the church of Christ to be seen in them, and to call them by that endearing appellation, to me it would be blasphemy; as God spared not the natural branches, (the Jewish church) neither will he spare the Gentile church for their idolatry; ours if possible is worse than

the Jew's, as our forefathers had them as examples; but we have been under lying Gods, and the world has been and is now full of lying oracles, backed up with all the wit and malice of men and devils, and all this time they can draw on a long face, and weave christian tape, and by their false oracle, prove that their descent was directly from the church of Christ; and none but the elect can have a right knowledge of their affinity to the church of Christ.

What is the scripture account of the false church, both Jews and Gentiles? The first caution to the church of Christ, was, "Beware of false prophets, which come in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravening wolves." Mat. vii. 15. They are the corrupt tree, and Jesus said I know ye not; that is, I cannot fellowship the workers of iniquity; and this house that is built on the sand shall fall, and the children or all that are in the house, shall be cast out into utter darkness; (for a certain limited time) for they desired Jesus to depart out of their coast, for they despise

publicans and sinners, they are ever engaged to put the new cloth (or gospel) to the old garment; (or law of Moses) satan is ever endeavouring to cast out satan; The people are as sheep, having no shepherd, in the midst of wolves; (Popes and Pharisees) our Saviour says, "Beware of them, for they will deliver you up to councils," and so they have and would again if they had the power.

This false church called Jesus, Belzebub, and accused John the Baptist, of having a devil; are these the children of God? Do they gather with Jesus and the Apostles? O generation of vipers! Saith Jesus. (Mat. xii. 34.) They will be brought down to hell; (punishment) they are very zealous in keeping the Sabbath, they condemned the guiltless and plotted his death, and endeavoured to stop the progress of the gospel; they bring forth evil fruit, they are an evil and adulterous generation; they have taken to themselves every evil spirit; it is not given them to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, and how can they be called the church of

Christ, when they neither see, hear, nor understand? Their hearts are gross, and their ears dull of hearing, they close their eyes lest they should understand, and be converted and healed; the wicked one (or Anti-christ) catches away that which is sown in their hearts, being under his dominion, they are under his control, they have not root in themselves, they are suddenly offended, they are peevish and fretful, the cares of this world through the deceitfulness of riches, is the cause of their being unfruitful. They are constantly sowing tares (or false doctrines) and through pretence of rooting up tares, they root up the wheat, (christian hereticks,) thereby they do iniquity, and Jesus says, they shall be cast into a furnace of fire, (or afflictions,) where shall be weeping, wailing, and gnashing of teeth; (great distress.)

The militants were the people who desired the head of John the Baptist; they transgress the commandments of God by their traditions; they honour God with their lips, while their hearts are far from him; their doc-

trine is not a heavenly plant, therefore shall be rooted up; they are blind leaders of the blind, and poor mortals have all fallen into the ditch, (popery) for out of their hearts proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies, all of which our militant churches are replete with.

They are hypocrites, they can only discern the face of the sky; (outward appearances,) a wicked and adulterous generation, whose doctrines Jesus bade his disciples beware of: if our militant church had been the true church, the gates of hell would not prevail against it; they do not savour the things that are of God, but those that are of men, therefore they cannot enter into the kingdom of heaven, except they are converted, for it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle; they are so rich they do not need a Saviour; rich in good works; they bear the heat and burthen through the day, and expect more than others; through their righteousness, they have made the Lord's house, (or church) a den of thieves,

and if all the rest of the world should cry hosanna to the son of David, they would be sore displeased; such a fruitless figtree will soon wither away.—O militants, I say unto you, publicans and harlots shall enter into the kingdom of God before you; Math. xxi. 31.—but the Lord will slay you, and as the kingdom of God was taken from the Jews false church, so it has been taken from the great militant church, the mother of all our militant churches; and as mount Etna was considered the father of mountains, so is this great militant church the mother of all earthly churches, and like Etna is continually vomiting forth sulphurous smoke and flames of brimstone, and its effect has been felt from pole to pole, and the world in general have for many hundred years been cast into utter darkness.

They neither know the scriptures nor the power of God; they sit in Moses' seat, binding heavy burdens, all to be seen of men; they love the uppermost rooms at feast, and chief seats in their synagogues, and greetings in the markets, and to be called

rabbi, rabbi, i. e. master; thus they exalt themselves; Jesus says they shall be abased, (brought to a humble submission) because they or their agents shut up the kingdom of heaven, against men, devouring widows houses, and through pretence make long prayers, and must receive greater damnation; they strain at a gnat and swallow a camel, (or haughty revengeful spirit. See Brown's Bible Dictionary.

They are blind guides, they make clean the outside of the cup and platter, but are full of extortion and excess: they are whited sepulchres which appear beautiful outwardly, but are full of all uncleanness and iniquity: they are the children of them that killed the prophets and the hereticks, a generation of vipers; our holy father and holy mother, (church militant) have killed and persecuted from city to city, and are loath to give it up; but behold your house, or church, shall be made desolate!

They pretend to come in the name of Christ, thereby deceiving many;—they betray one another, and hate one

another; their love waxes cold towards each other, and they cry, lo! here is Christ, and lo! there. This militant church pretends to great signs and wonders, they are the carcasses and eagles, (birds of prey, which means the Roman church.) Unfaithful stewards, they smite, eat and drink with the drunken; they have no oil in their lamps; the true lamp has been put out long ago, they are the cursed; this false church shall go into everlasting punishment, and the true church into life eternal. They are ready at all times to covenant for thirty pieces of silver, and are ready to betray one another, and condemn one another, especially hereticks, and are ready on all occasions, to cut off an ear, hand, foot or head, as is described in this work.

In law suits these churches are dextrous in procuring false witnesses; are these the signs of the church of Christ? God forbid. They could not take the Saviours word for truth without an oath—Matth. xxvi, 63, and afterwards accused him of blasphemy, and said he was guilty of death, and

spit in his face, and buffeted him, (a flap with the flat of the hand in the face) and others smote him. Does this kind of conduct prove that they are the church of Christ?

Those beautiful gentlemen derided Christ, and told him to prophecy who smote him:—If they could see their folly, they would deny that they were ever guilty of such things, like Peter, would be ready to swear they were never with, nor never knew him; (but I shall not adjure them, for I believe they never knew him,) they would sooner release a robber than a poor heretick, they constantly feed the world with gall and wormwood, and cast lots for the clothes of the poor christian hereticks, and those that pass by would revile them, wagging their heads; (as may be seen in the history of New-England, under Gov. Endicott and priest Norton.

This Jewish false church called Jesus a deceiver; and is our holy mother any better? No, in no wise, for both Jews and Gentiles, are all under sin, (or idolatry,) they were ready to invent a lie, and hire soldiers to lie

for them. Do these things witness that they are the descendants of the Apostles, and church of Christ? And to this day all their adherents do as they are taught; their head pretended to forgive sins, and it was thought blasphemy in Christ to forgive sins, because it included all mankind;—they said, we never saw it on this fashion before—Luke ii. 12. They are those by the way side, which the fowls of the air devour, Satan is the prince and power of the air, and his agents and emissaries, are considered the fowls, and they use great subtlety and deceit, they lay snares and temptations to destroy mankind; and it is those fowls, (or false churches) that have destroyed the world's happiness through every age to this day. See Fowler in Brown's Bible Dictionary. They have no root in themselves, they fear persecution and are soon offended; they are like the man among the tombs, no man can tame them; they laugh to scorn all who believe Jesus to be the propitiation for the sins of the whole world; they said to Jesus, why do not your disciples

walk according to the tradition of the elders; here the disciples were the transgressors, yet fain would they have the world believe that they were the descendants of these same disciples:—This is an acknowledgment that they nor their elders, did not walk in the doctrines or precepts of the Saviour, notwithstanding they thought proper to call their church after his name, as that would varnish all their foul actions, that they might appear more beautiful to men, whom they wished to lord it over; in vain do they worship me, (said Jesus,) they reject the commandment of God, that they may keep their own traditions, making the word of God of none effect, they savour not the things that be of God, they seek to save themselves, (or souls, or life,) but Christ says they shall lose it; that is, their power shall be destroyed—Mark, viii 35.

They cannot believe that all things are possible with God; (or to them that believe.) They dispute among themselves who shall be greatest;—Mark ix, 34, my house, said Jesus,

shall be called by all nations the house of prayer. Christ is the desire, or prayer of all nations.

This false church is astonished at the doctrine of Christ because he saith, he will have all men to be saved, and come unto the knowledge of the truth—1st Tim. ii, 4; they killed the Lord of life and glory, that the inheritance might be theirs.—These false churches are ever up in arms, nation against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and famine and trouble are the consequences. The brother shall betray the brother unto death; the father, the son, and children against their parents, and harmless christians shall be hated of all nations. This is the common trait of our militant churches, and as they affirm they are the church of Christ, they are dumb when in the presence of believers, and as soon as they become believers their mouths are opened, and give the praise to God. They was warned to flee from the wrath to come, but they neglected the admonition; they shut up John in prison, and were filled with wrath, which was the element of hell, and

the new or gospel of love never will agree therewith; wo unto you, when men speak well of you, they lend hoping to receive again.

How can the blind lead the blind? They behold the mote that is in their brother's eye, but discover not the beam that is in their own; they are always endeavouring to pull out the mote that is in their brother's eye, and neglect the beam that is in their own: they build their house, or church, upon the earth, or earthly things,—Luke vi, 49, they reject the council of God, against themselves, Luke vii, 30, and all who are not baptized of the Holy Ghost do the same; they accuse Jesus of being a glutton and a drunkard; they are not willing to receive the kingdom of God as a free gift, but are ever endeavouring to gain the kingdom of heaven, by some great and noble deed of their own. O faithless and perverse generation! They are ready to command fire from heaven to consume all that differ from them in sentiment—Luke ix, 54.

They do not love their neighbours as themselves; therefore they bear

no likeness to Jesus Christ, and his church, and they must have their portion with unbelievers; in those militant churches they are divided, three against two, and two against three; and they are a divided, contentious crew; they are ever endeavouring to enter in at the straight gate, by their own righteousness, and are crying Lord, Lord, open unto us, we have done many wonderful things, we have paid tythes of all we possess, we pray three times a day, &c. and their shall be weeping, wailing and gnashing of teeth, when they see Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and they themselves cast out; they have taken the highest seats in the wedding, or kingdom of heaven.

When they make a feast, they call in the rich and honourable, and the poor are neglected: they began to build their church, or babel, and was not able to finish it; their salt hath lost its savour, and is fit for nothing, but to be cast out and trodden under foot of man. He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.

It grieves them to think that Jesus should receive sinners ; (for they will not. How grieved they were because the father received the prodigal son kindly. How can the true riches be committed to their trust ? They think they have the true riches committed to their trust : fools and blind, they endeavour to serve two masters ; they justify themselves before men, but God knoweth their hearts ; they are not as other men, they are extortioners, unjust, &c.

They justify themselves before men, they want to know what they shall do to inherit eternal life, notwithstanding it is a gift, they want to do something, they are not willing that the poor despised Nazarene should reign over them ; he was too generous for their pride ; they glory in long robes—they accuse Jesus of stirring up the people to revolt, as John Calvin did the hereticks ; they had Jesus before their tribunals, as the Papists and Protestants did the poor hereticks ; these proceedings do not look like the church of Christ.

They seek the living among the

dead, they have made the house of God, (or church of God) an house of merchandise, they are haters of the true light ; (John iii. 20.) their doctrines are not from above, but are of the earth, and are earthly, sensual, devilish, they worship they know not what, they confess God to be their father, and yet deny the record God has given of his Son ; they have not the word of God abiding in them, they will not come unto God that they might have life, they have not the love of God in them ; they receive honour one of another, they labour for meat that perisheth, they know not the gospel and are cursed.

These false churches, Jews and Gentiles, are from beneath, they have not continued in the word of Christ Jesus ; his word has no place in them, although he told them the truth ; they are of their father the devil, and his lusts they will do, he was a liar and the father of liars, therefore militants and liars are brethren ; they dishonour Christ and his church, therefore it is not the church of Christ ; Jesus says they are liars, (John viii. 55.)

and this affronted them, and they took up stones to stone him, they are Moses' disciples, rather than to confess Jesus to be the Saviour of all men, they endeavour to climb up to heaven (or the true church) some other way. Jesus says all that ever come before me are thieves and robbers, and I fully believe they were; the thief cometh not but for to steal, kill, and destroy; this looks like the militant churches, Jesus saith, he come that they might have life, but our priesthood are nothing but hirelings, and Jesus declared such not to be his sheep; then how can those orthodox churches be the churches of Christ?

They endeavoured to kill Lazarus, because Jesus raised him from the dead; (that was a lovely spirit) they think they are doing God's service when they are killing somebody, (John xvi. 20.) these things they do because they know not the Father nor me, said Jesus, they will fight for their priests, (John xiii. 22.) they are much afraid of being defiled by sinners; they considered Jesus as a malefac-

tor, the members of the false church accused the Apostles of being drunk, and all that was in the house at the day of pentecost, and it is thus said at this day of every true born child of God; they are either mad or crazy, and after they had crucified the Saviour, they followed the Apostles about, and imprisoned them, and endeavoured to hinder the spread of the gospel, (Acts iv. 17.) and commanded them not to speak in the name of Jesus, notwithstanding they are willing to call their churches after his name. How the Heathens rage and imagine vain things? The Gentiles and people of Israel were against Christ, and his Apostles, and how can they be his descendants? Like Ananias they lie to God, they are afraid the world will be filled with the gospel of Jesus Christ, which is peace and good will.

Theudas was one of their priests, Judas, of Galilee, was another, he perished; others of the synagogue of the Libertines, and Cyrenians and Alexandrians, and those of Cilicia, and of Asia, all of which rose up a-

gainst the Apostles, and those are now the heads of our Militant churches, and they never descended from the Apostolick church; and these falsely accused Stephen (Acts vi. 13.)

It was the fear of the Jewish church, that Jesus would change their customs, which Moses delivered, and it is the constant fear of our militant churches, that the custom of reading or preaching the law of Moses, every Sabbath day, will be abolished, their hearts are turned back into Egypt. They applied to Aaron to make them a golden calf to worship; for they knew not what had become of Moses, and have rejoiced in works of their own ever since, and have worshipped the host of heaven—or Priests and Levites. By heaven is meant the Jewish church. (Acts vii. 42. Dictionary of the Bible.) Also the host of heaven, is considered as the sun, moon, and stars; (see Deut. xvii. 3. also, 2d Kings, xvii. 16.) they are stiff necked and do always resist the Holy Ghost, betrayers of the just, persecutors of the prophets and their neighbours; these expressions cut

them to the heart, (Acts vii. 54.) and they stopped their ears; and it is the practice to this day with all our orthodox christians, and they are continually casting stones at all others who differ from them in sentiment, and will flee when no man pursueth, and instead of being the successors of the the church of Christ, they (as Saul did) persecuted it, and have wasted it.

Our present churches are bewitched with Simon's Sorceries, and are frequently laying on hands, as a token of giving the Holy Ghost, yet they will breathe out threatnings and destruction to their fellow mortals.—How many harmless christians have been brought bound before their holy court of inquisition, by order of their Priests; (as is said) they are the successors of Apostles, whose predecessors, went about to kill the Apostle Paul. They constantly call many unclean, although God has told them that they should not call any man common or unclean, (Acts x. 28.) and these uncircumcised in heart, were constantly contending with the

Apostles, and still claim their descent from them.

They were in union with Herod, that impious god, who lived in whoredom, and beheaded John Baptist, for reproving him, and killed James with the sword; and was Herod in unison with the christian religion? And to please the Jews he proceeded to take Peter, and put him in prison, but the Lord delivered him—at last he was eaten of worms and gave up the ghost, and this will be the fate of all our militant churches; they do not yet cease to pervert the right way of the Lord, they know neither the law nor the prophets, they wonder and perish—the gospel is a work they will in no wise believe, though a man declare it unto them. Acts xiii. 41.

Thus the Jewish false church considered themselves unworthy of eternal life, and is the Gentile false church any better? Then how can they be the churches of Christ? They stirred up the women against the church of Christ, (verse 50.) or doctrines, and it is the same at this day; likewise they stirred up the Gentiles,

and their minds were evil affected, and both Jews and Gentiles rose up against the gospel, and they do not amend much yet. Are these the descendants of the Apostles?

Law and gospel, is the controversy, circumcision and uncircumcision, baptism of water, and baptism of the Holy Ghost; the water is of this world, the other is not; the water is a sacrament of the false churches, and the other of the true; and thus get as great gain, by water baptism, as the damsel did, to her master, that was possessed with a spirit of divination, (or Python a sorceress) and they are ready to thunder out their bulls against every one that speaks against it, and would bring them before the magistrates if they could, and if they could not conquer their fanics, they would desire them to depart out of their coasts. But they are ever stirring up the baser sort to accomplish their views; for these fellows, (the universalist, atheist, and deist will turn the world upside down, (that has already been done, and we wish to turn it back again) all these things,

say they, are against the decrees of Cesar; (Emperor of Rome) the religion of Jesus, was what turned the world upside down, and it was not Cesar's friends as they supposed, and it much troubled the people—these Jewish Tigers followed Paul to Berea, and stirred up the people there. The Epicureans (Heathen Philosophers, who flourished about A. M. 3700 and deny that God made the world, or governs the world) and Stoicks, (who are likewise Heathen philosophers) encountered him and they brought him before Arcopagus, (high court at Athens.) Paul declared them to be too superstitious, and it is too much so with our militant churches, and perhaps are as ignorant in their worship as the Athenians; but this ignorance God winked at (which means contempt) because he hath appointed a day to judge the world in righteousness, and hath given assurance unto all men, (Acts xvii. 31.) and some mocked then, and so they do now;—seeing they opposed themselves, he shook his raiment, and said,—your blood be on your own heads,

henceforth I will go to the Gentiles; and they hauled Paul before the judgment seat because he persuadeth men to believe the gospel. These vagabonds are ever endeavouring to do the same works that Jesus and the Apostles did, yet go about to destroy them; they attempted to cast out unclean spirits through his name, but they suffered for their blasphemy,—they burned their magical books, but yet retain their enchanting spirit and power: they are ready to fall in with Demetrius and his mob, because their craft is in danger. But I believe that Godmaking is yet a principle trade in our militant churches to this day, under another form; and their craft is always in danger where the truth prevails, and are filled with wrath against all who will not purchase their homespun gods, and some cry one thing, and some another, for their assembly (or church) are confused, and their doctrines are a confused mess of senseless jargon.

When Paul went to Greece, the Jews laid wait for him, (as Calvin did for Servetus) at Macedonia Paul

prophesieth the ruin of his churches; that grievous wolves would enter and not spare them, (the false and true church of Christ) even of their own selves, should men arise, speaking perverse things (froward, peevish, fretful, crossgrained. Acts xx 30.— This is the temper of all our orthodox believers at this day, they will snuff up their noses, fret, and say I don't want to talk with you, neither will I have such conversation in my house, and will hop about like the Adder. St. Paul said it would happen to them, and they would draw parties after them; and parties there are without number.

Thus we see their origin from the Apostolick church, they went out from them by seduction, and are no more the same in likeness, than God and mammon, Christ, & Anti-Christ; and how blasphemous it is to call their churches the church of Christ; how many thousands of the Jews pretended to believe, and yet are zealous of the law, is it not so at this day, with all our churches? To which

branch of the Apostolick church do they belong,

I am sure our militant churches are only the continuance of the Jewish false church. Acts xxi. 20. If any should believe in the salvation of all men, the cry is, away with him from off the earth, for he is not fit to live, and would perhaps smite him on the mouth if their priest said they must; but God will smite those whitened walls.

Perhaps I shall be accused of reviling the high priest of this day, and perhaps their adherents would neither eat, nor drink, until they had slain me, for say they he is a pestilent fellow, a mover of sedition, a ringleader of all mischief and wickedness; a profane fellow, he constantly speaks evil of our holy father and holy mother. These hell brands laid many and grievous complaints against Paul, which they could not prove: so doth our orthodox believers against the universalist, deist, and atheist, and all who differ from them in sentiment; and which church are they of, Christ, or Anti-Christ? I submit it to

the world to judge; they desire judgment against us, in all cases;—their best questions amount to nothing more than their own superstition, and they live a Pharisee, and give their voice against every poor heretick that was put to death, and they have compelled thousands to blaspheme, (to speak reproachfully of Christ and his religion.) And because I expose their hypocrisy, they go about to kill me, (or destroy my reputation) and say that I am beside myself; (or crazy) at other times they are almost persuaded to believe with me, many will say, we desire to hear thee, but your sect is spoken against every where; others are fearful of losing an honourable seat in their militant church, or they will be despised by their neighbours, or lose some civil appointment—all of which, has great weight in carnal minds, and their minds must be carnal, if they let such things hinder the free exercise of conscience. But the wrath of God is revealed from heaven (the true church) against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who

hold the truth in unrighteousness, for they do not glorify God, as God, but become vain in their imaginations, and thus their foolish hearts are darkened, and have changed the glory of the incorruptible God, into images like unto corruptible men, birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Therefore God gave them up to uncleanness to dishonour their own bodies, between themselves; who have changed the truth of God into a lie, and worship and serve the creature more than the Creator. For this cause, God gave them up unto vile affections, and they were given over to a reprobate mind, (or to apostatize from the church of Christ,) see Brown's Dictionary of the Bible.

These false militant churches, are filled with all unrighteousness, (Rom. 1st chapter) fornication, covetousness, maliciousness, full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; they are whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, without understanding, covenant breakers, without natural affec-

tion, implacable, unmerciful, and they that commit such things are worthy of death; they not only do such things but take pleasure in them that do them.

How exactly does this catalogue of characters, symbolize with all our orthodox churches? and how can they say that their churches are the churches of Christ? they are the offspring of those, that went out from the Apostolick church by sedition, therefore they are inexcusable.—They treasure up wrath against the day of wrath, and the revelation of the righteous judgment of God; and unto the contentious, is rendered indignation and wrath, tribulation and anguish, to every soul (or creature) that doth evil, to the Jew first, and also the Gentiles, for there is no respect of persons with God.

Here the Jewish and Gentile church are incorporated, and are unanimous to this day:—No one is exempt from trouble, that doth evil; they have become guides to the blind, and pretend to give light unto them that are in darkness, instructors of the foolish,

teachers of babes, who have a form of knowledge, and of the truth in the law.

Why do they not teach themselves? When they preach, that a man should not steal, do they steal? Or that a man should not commit adultery, do they commit adultery? They boast of the law, and yet dishonour God; the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentile world through them, for their religion does not profit them, without they keep the whole law.

Let us do what we will, say they, we shall be saved; we may do evil, that good may come, whose damnation is just; they do not understand, they do not seek after God and Godliness; they are all gone out of the way, and become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no not one, their throats are an open sepulchre; their tongues have, and do use deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips, their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness, their feet are swift to shed blood; destruction and misery are in their ways, and the way of peace they have not known; there is no fear of

God before their eyes—Rom. iii, 10, &c.

This is the true character of their false militant churches, they mind the things of the flesh, which are carnal, and they follow their pernicious errors, and ungodly appetites, and their fruit is death; and it is not pleasing in God's sight, for he would rather they would return and live; notwithstanding if they will live after the flesh, they shall die—Rom. viii, 13—and if they are the children of the flesh, as it appears they are, then they are not the children of God, as they frequently affirm—see Rom. ix, 8.

In following after the righteousness of the law, they have stumbled at that stumbling stone, which was laid in Zion, for they are a gainsaying and disobedient people, they are blinded, they have the spirit of slumber, (in point of righteousness,) their table (or law righteousness) has become a snare to them, a trap, and a recompence; their eyes are darkened; their false churches were broken off, or separated, through unbelief, and how are

they the church of Christ, saints, children of God, &c?

They have not continued in his goodness—Rom. xi, 22,—they have caused divisions, and do still, and we are cautioned to avoid them; they do not serve the Lord Jesus Christ, but their own bellies, (carnal lusts and sensuality,) and by good words, and fair speeches, deceive the simple, there are contentions continually among them—1st Cor. i, 2—they seem to be possessed of the wisdom of this world, which shall come to naught; they have received the spirit of the world they have not received the things of the spirit of God, for they are foolishness unto them. The church at Corinth had so far apostatized, that St. Paul could not speak unto them, as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes; (weak ready to be seduced by Satan,) they are yet carnal, in consequence of envyings, strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal and walk as men? The Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise that they are vain.

There are fornicators among them;

and they are obliged to keep company with them, or go out of the world, and the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God, neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God—1st Cor. vi, 9, 10—what knowledge they have only serves to puff them up with vanity and pride, and their strife is to obtain a corruptible crown.

They lust after evil things, thousands of them both eat and drink to excess; they sacrifice to devils and have fellowship with them, (or idolaters,) they drink of the cup of devils, (liquor drank at idolators feasts,)—therefore are partakers of the devil's table.

Their doctrines are heresies, (errors, works of the flesh, denying the doctrines of the Lord,) full of schisms, (divisions,) corrupting the word of God, and that has been done in all their translations; they do not renounce the secret and hidden things of dishonesty, they walk in craftiness

and handle the word of God deceitfully; they only look at things which are seen; which are temporal:—but this earthly house, or church must be dissolved, or cease to be.

They glory in appearance and not in heart—2d Cor. v, 12—they wish to know Christ after the flesh, but righteousness can have no fellowship with unrighteousness, neither can Christ have any concord, or good agreement with Belial; satan or wicked worthless people; they are not cleansed from all the filthiness of the flesh (or maliciously or barbarously use others,)—this is their trait thro' all preceding ages, for the weapons of their warfare are carnal, sinful and wicked—they commend themselves, and measure themselves by themselves, and compare themselves among themselves, and are not wise—2d Cor. x, 12.—They are corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ, or harmless, free from deceit.—Can this be said of our militant churches?

Are they not false Apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into Apostles of Christ? If so

they cannot be the true descendants of the Apostles, and it is not marvellous, (wonderful, surprising,) if they do transform, for their great high priest, (satan or Pope) was transformed into an angel of light, the vicar of Christ.

There are constantly, in those militant churches, debates, envyings, wrath, strife, backbitings, whisperings, swellings, extreme trouble, bombast language, blackguard, nonsense, and tumults—2d Cor. xii, 20—and they do not repent of their uncleanness; they have either never known the gospel of Christ, or have been moved into another gospel, and if the latter is true, they are in seven times worse situation than if they had never known the right way, and of course cannot be the true church of Christ; for they pervert the gospel of Christ.

But if they, or any man, or an angel from heaven, or any church, preach any other gospel than that which Jesus Christ hath preached, they must and will be cursed—(separated from the true church, anathematized.) Are they so foolish as to think they shall

be made perfect in the flesh? For as many as are under the law, are under the curse; (separated, &c.) they are entangled with the weak and beggarly elements of the world, and desire to be in bondage.

They observe days, months, times, and years,—(Alluding to their ceremonial worship)—they seek to be justified by the law, therefore are fallen from grace, (favor, love and affection, true church, kingdom of God)—Gal. v, 4. They bite, (injure others,) and devour, (defrauding others of their due,) even one another, all of which are the works of the flesh, which are too tedious to state here, but read Gal. v, 19, and onward.

Those militant churches are ever desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, and envying one another,—they sow to the flesh, and shall reap corruption; (sinful practices,) and they desire others to join them, in the common course of this world, according to the prince, the power of the air, that is, the spirit that worketh in the children of disobedience, and they are children of wrath, or punishment,

they are strangers from the covenant of promise, they are aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and without God, or love, in the world, Eph. ii, 12, carried about with every wind of doctrine, i. e. wind pedlars, and soul savers, they peddle all sorts of doctrine, and tossed to and fro, by the sleight of men, and craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive, thereby walking in the vanity of their minds, because of the blindness of their hearts; who are past feeling; given over to lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness, with greediness, or striving who shall exceed.

They do not speak truth with their neighbours, neither do they put away lying; they have fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness; they are far from understanding what the will of the Lord is; they are not subject unto Christ and his gospel, they do not wrestle against flesh and blood, (carnal friends,) principalities and powers, neither against the rulers of darkness, neither against spiritual wickedness, in high places; (Moun-

tains or hills where idolaters worshipped.

The false churches are styled a wicked and perverse generation, dogs who hold filthy doctrines, evil workers, concision, or circumcision, all of which Paul warned the Philippian church to beware—Phil. iii, 2—they are enemies of the cross of Christ, whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, (carnal lust.) Can they be the children of God, the descendants of the Apostles, and church of Christ? They are spoiled through philosophy and vain deceit, they keep up the hand writing of ordinances, therefore are beguiled by a voluntary humility, in worshipping of angels; vainly puffed up by their fleshly minds, and are alive to the rudiments of this world, which is the first principle of all arts and sciences; and are subject to ordinances, although St. Paul told the Colossian church they must not touch, taste, nor handle, as all was to perish with the using, as well as the commandments and doctrines of men, for it is only will wor-

ship, and a neglecting of the body, or church of Christ—Col. ii, 20.

They set their affections on earthly things, devilish things; they sleep in the night, (ignorance and distress in their churches,) and they are drunken in the night, in Popery, they are unruly, they are not patient toward all men; they render evil for evil, they do not follow that which is good among themselves, nor towards others; they do not abstain from all appearances of evil, and of course cannot be the true church of Christ,—therefore God will recompense tribulation to them who shall be punished with everlasting destruction, from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power—2d Thess. i, 9.

The Pope and his church are much revealed at this day, for the mystery of iniquity doth yet work, which the Lord will consume, with the breath of his mouth, and all other lying wonders; for which cause God sent them strong delusions, that they should believe a lie, that they all might be damned, that believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness,

and become unreasonable and wicked, walking disorderly, not labouring with their hands; and are busybodies, giving heed to fables, and endless genealogies (or registers of the lineage of their priests) which minister questions and strife, (for they always fight for their ministers) and have turned aside to vain wrangling, desiring to be teachers of the law, understanding neither what they say, nor whereof they affirm; but remember that the law was made for the lawless and disobedient, ungodly sinners, the unholy and profane, murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, manslayers and whoremongers, sodomites, menstealers, (those who steal negroes) liars, perjured persons, and any who act contrary to sound doctrines.

Who is there that is clear from this catalogue of characters? I trust many have committed these acts ignorantly, and have ignorantly fallen into the condemnation, of the devil; their consciences became seared, as with a hot iron, they suppose that gain is godliness, which drove men

in destruction and perdition, for they become highminded, that are rich and trust in uncertain riches; this apostasy crowded close upon the heels of the Apostles, for in the year 66 St. Paul declares all they of Asia turned away from him, of whom was Phygelus and Hermogines, 2d Tim.—i. 15 who were christians, and before they joined the church were magicians and perhaps they built magical churches and called them militant churches, and was in unison with Simon Magus, their god; under the inspection of the vicar of Christ, (Pope.)

Our orthodox churches, unlawfully strive for masteries, and their words eat like a canker, (to bereave and oppress) and overthrow the faith of some: Let them if they name the name of Christ, depart from iniquity; but they oppose themselves, and are not secured from the snare of the devil; for of this sort, are they which creep (to enter with subtlety and privacy) into houses and lead captive silly women; led away with diverse lusts (mingling the truth of the gospel with their own invention) they

are ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth; and as Jennes, and Jambres, (sons of Balaam, magicians of Egypt) withstood Moses in imitating his miracles, so do our clergy resist the truth, but their folly is manifest to most men.

They have for many years waxed worse and worse, (more tormenting) deceiving and being deceived, turning away their ears from the truth unto fables.

Where is the true church? Demas was an early professor of christianity and was a preacher, but about A. D. 65 he forsook his calling, for a more lucrative business, and popular doctrines—it is said he fell into the heresy of Ebion, and Corinthus, who held Christ to be a mere man; he went to Thesilonica, and Crepan to Galatia.

Thus we find by precept and example, that the original founders of our militant churches, were sorcerers and magicians, with the addition of Mahomet and the Pope of Rome, who have incorporated the church and the world in one, under the name of

the church of Christ.—And how many of our orthodox preachers have forsook their churches for a more lucrative business, or calling? How often do they shift sides, for gain, honour and promotion in civil government? and all this time have the impudence to tell the people, that they are the descendants of the holy Apostles, and their churches, and assemblies, are the churches of Christ.

Alexander the Coppersmith, espoused the christian faith, but became a blasphemer, perhaps by reason of pride, the christians were such a mean set, and their doctrines so unpopular, like the universal doctrines; he did them all the hurt he could, and it is much so with our clergy at this day. They use every endeavour to cause people to disbelieve the gospel, through their traditions, and are not able to convince the gainsayers, for they are unruly talkers and deceivers, and they have originated from circumcision, and their mouths must be stopped.

To the unbelieving there is nothing pure, for their consciences are defil-

ed, they are not a pattern of good works, they do not adorn the doctrines of the Apostles, they are hardened through the deceitfulness of sin, they do not cease from their own works; they crucify the son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame—and they are nigh unto cursing, whose end is to be burned; they follow the law of a carnal commandment, (or first covenant) which was a false covenant, otherwise it would never have been broken. They are strangers to the new covenant, the first had to give way to the new, as that stood only in meats, and drinks, and diverse washings; (pointing to legal worship of the Jewish false church,) which are called carnal ordinances including circumcision, sprinkling, and baptism; and those carnal ordinances are strictly adhered to at this day, and they were imposed on them (or binding them,) until the time of the reformation; (or Gentile dispensation of the gospel) but it is in fashion yet, notwithstanding it is to perish with the using.

To support those lying ordinances,

they have slain thousands with the sword, they have tortured with cruel mockings and scourgings, of bonds and imprisonment, stoned to death, &c. &c.

They constantly refuse him that speaketh from heaven, and carried about with strange doctrines, they neglect to do good and to communicate;—they are wavering as the waves of the sea, driven and tossed with the winds; unstable in all their ways, and like the rich man, shall fade away in their ways. Their religion is vain, they have the faith (or gospel) of Jesus Christ, with respect to persons, and are partial in themselves; and are judgers of evil tho'ts, they blaspheme that worthy name by which their church is called, (James ii. 7.) and their religion will be destroyed without mercy; they show their faith by their works, they have many masters, and lie against the truth, and their wisdom is earthly, sensual, and devilish, and it is enmity against God, and their fellow men.—Ye double minded, your laughter shall be turned into mourning, and your

joy into heaviness; consider the hire of the labourers, you have kept back by fraud, crieth against you; you have killed the just.

How you bear grudge against one another; is this the spirit of the church of Christ? you do not confess your faults one to another, as the Lord Jesus directed you; you are a stone of stumbling and a rock of offence, which cause men to stumble at the word; (or gospel) you use your liberty for a cloak of maliciousness. Our churches have not the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, and they think it strange that the world does not run with them in the same excesses and riots; (Peter iv. 4) they as often as others suffer as murderers, thieves, evil doers, and as busybodies; yet it is the church of Christ.

They are that adversary (or his emissaries,) that goes about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour; false prophets, bringing in damnable heresies, and through covetousness make merchandize of the gospel; this is seen from their high salaries—they are haughty, proud,

turbulent, self-willed; they pay great respect to dignified persons, they speak evil of things they do not understand, and of persons they never saw; they are spots and blemishes, who sport with their own deceivings, having eyes full of adultery, cursed children; they allure through lusts and much wantonness, those that were escaped from them, by promising them liberty; yet they are the servants of corruption, and are overcome and brought into bondage, and their latter end is worse with them than the beginning, and it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness—(or the way of the righteous, or Christ.)

They are scoffers walking in their own lusts, and they are willingly ignorant; but their heavens, or militant churches, shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements that compose them shall melt with fervent heat;—(the love of God,) the earth also, (carnal mindedness) and the works therein, carnal and devilish works, such as the false churches are given to, shall be burned; and those heavens,

or churches, being on fire, by the love of God, shall be dissolved, or dispersed and changed,—O how glad I should be to see that day.

These things have been and are now, hard to understand: and the world at large have applied to blind guides for information, and those guides would apply to their lying oracles, which were instituted by their lying god's:—Thus poor innocent souls have been drowned in the mystery of iniquity, and wrest the scriptures—(turn them into a wrong sense and meaning,)—see 2d Pet. iii. They profess to be in the light and yet hate their fellow mortals, so walk in darkness, and this blindness hath blinded their eyes.

They love the world and the things thereof, and this is evidence that the love of God is not in them. Said the Apostle John, they went out from us, but were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us. See John ii. 19.

Need we any more proof that the great church militant and her daughter churches, belong to Anti-christ?

But how much has been written in our world to prove this great church and her daughters to be the churches of Christ, and her communicants all the children of God, saints, &c.

These things said John, have I written concerning them that seduce you, (decoy or draw away,) and he that did this was of the devil; then it follows that all the false churches are of the devil, assisted by all his magical art, and for this cause the Son of God, (or love,) was manifested to destroy the works of the devil, which are those militant churches.

Here is the contrast; the church of Christ, is born of God, or love, and cannot commit sin, (idolatry,) and all idolaters are the children of the devil, and are born of the devil, and of course hate the church of Christ, their brothers and neighbours. Who can hate any thing, when love is the ruling principle of the human heart?—Cain slew his brother because his own works were evil; so it was with the false churches in destroying heretics, because their own works were evil, and the church of Christ, or righteous-

ness, whom the world hateth, or churches of this world, who abideth in death because they do not love the church of Christ, but hate it, and hate their brethren, therefore are murderers, and have not eternal life abiding in them, or love.

How many false christians shut up the bowels of compassion, and refuse to give alms to the poor and needy? How dwelleth the love of God in them? They love in word and in tongue, but not in deed and truth; therefore it is the spirit of Anti-christ, and is in our world at this day.

Those militant churches are of the world, and the world heareth them, and trouble, fear, and doubts are their constant companions, and it is because they are strangers to God, or love, for there is no fear in love, or God, but fear hath torment, thus those false churches are tormented day and night, for ever and ever, or from age to age, or from generation to generation, and this false church and spirit has run through all ages from Adam to this day, and the smoke of their

torment hath ascended up forever and ever, and like Diotrophes, they have strived for pre-eminence forever and ever: Diotrophes did not abide in the doctrine of Christ, because he had not God, or love; so it is with our militant churches, they have neither the Father nor the Son of his love; for he that doeth evil hath not seen God, or love.

Are not all our orthodox churches guilty of all sorts of crimes? Yet they boast of knowing God, or love, therefore make God a liar; these are they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the spirit of love, who say they are Apostles, children of God, &c. and are not, but are liars, and are of the synagogue of satan, or church of Anti-christ; and this synagogue of satan has cast many into prison, and shed rivers of blood, to support their ungodly doctrines and creeds.

This has been done even where satan's seat is, and where he dwelleth, in the militant churches.—These Jezebel churches, seduced and destroyed the seven churches of Asia, and they shall be killed with death;

(the wages of sin,) and all the churches shall know that I am he who searcheth the reins and hearts, and I will give unto every one of the churches, according to their works, and they shall worship at the feet of Immanuel, or his church.

These are they who have taken leave from the earth, and death and hell followed with them, and power was given them to kill with the sword, with hunger, with death, (or all sorts of torture,) and with the beasts of the earth.

How clearly has John the Revelator, figured out our militant churches—Rev. vi, 8.—hail and fire mingled with blood, are those barbarous nations let loose on the Roman territories, which destroyed a third part of the trees and the green grass, that is, old and young, high and low, rich and poor together; this was a fighting church—Rev. viii.

A great mountain burning with fire, signifies a great warlike nation, (militant churches,) cast into the sea, signifies falling on the Roman Empire, who were apostatized christians, ma-

keth a sea af blood, with horrible destruction of their cities and inhabitants; waters signify people, multitudes, nations and tongues,—Rev. xvii, 15.

And there fell a great star from heaven (church militant,) and this star is called wormwood; which represents Genseric, king of the Vandals, who was a bigoted Arian; rivers and fountains are considered a representation of doctrines, and this militant Arian church, killed, destroyed, and carried captive, an innumerable number of orthodox christians, and thus he became bitterness and wormwood; and this Genseric & Alaric were considered the scourge of God, shed on the christians, (Papist,) for not continuing in the doctrine of the true church.

The third part of the sun, moon, and stars, were smitten so that a third part of them were darkened, that they shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise: these luminaries represent the great church militant, her celestial light being darkened, and begun to diminish, and

what woes have been felt in her dying struggles; oh! I wish I could see her take her last gasp. (For better satisfaction of the reader, look at bishop Newton's Diss. 9th Ed. vol. 2d, page 196 to the 200.)

Another star fell from heaven, or church, which represents Mahomet, who had the key of the bottomless pit, (the inventor of his militant church,) a terrible smoke rose out of that pit, representing the false doctrines which filled the world with darkness and error to this day.

These Arabian Locusts took rapid strides, they compassed sea and land, to make proselytes; a blazing star is a fit emblem of a false prophet, and these infernal locusts were ready in a day, an hour, to chastize and punish the corrupt and idolatrous christians; this was Mahomed's intended expedition, to re-establish the unity of the Godhead: The doctrine of Mahomed has spread like a contagion over the face of the whole earth, and how can there be a true church in this lower world?

The four angels to be let loose to

slay the third part of men, was four Turkish princes, (hellhounds,) they are coincident with the Popes, except they never pretended to be followers of Jesus Christ, neither did they call their militant churches the churches of Christ.

Fire and brimstone alludes to their great guns and other fiery engines of death, by these the third part were killed, (fine religion,)—the power of those angels were in their mouths and tails; their mouths spread their delusions, and is established by their power in the rear, and are our present churches any better?

The rest of the men that were not killed by those hellhounds repented not of the works of their hands to this day—Rev. xi, 20—those militant churches have killed the bodies of the true christians, but can never subdue that heaven-born companion of the heart, love.

Another wonder appeared in heaven, (the true church,) a great red draggon; by this the Roman militant church was figured, which has presided over the whole world in all sorts

of shapes, accompanied with all sorts of deceptions to this day; the woman, the dragon meant to devour with her child, was the true church and first born of every creature; but it is out of the whore's reach.

The devil and satan, or all deceivers, were cast out of heaven like lightning into the earth, and his angels with him, or ministers, which represent persecuting emperors, and heathen magistrates, together with their priests and sophists, (caviling disputers,) as dislodged from power and office, by the christians, so that they held not the supremacy in the church militant and they were filled with wrath to this day, for they still keep snapping and snarling.

A flood of waters was cast out from his mouth to destroy the woman, or true church. Waters signify people and nations; thus the old draggonical militant churches instigated more terrible persecutions to destroy the true christians, or what they called so, the earth helped the woman, (the true church,) i. e. wholesome

laws were enacted and checked the torrent of persecution.

A beast signifies a tyrannical idolatrous Empire, and came up from a stormy sea, that is from the commotions of the world, the same as to come up out from the bottomless pit; thus our militant churches were bro't forth, by the ragings of a tempestuous world, from the prolific womb of the bottomless pit, that is, without a true foundation: and is now called the church of Christ, and their power is extended over all kindred, nations and tongues, to this time, and all that dwell upon earth hath worshiped this tyrant of tyrants, or all carnal minded christians have worshiped him.

Another beast has come up out of the earth, this is the great Roman church militant with all her hierarchy, or body of the clergy, also called the false prophet and had reference to a succession of false teachers propagating false doctrines, and teaching lies for sacred truth to this day, through every denomination, without a single exception, the mystic order not ex-

cepted, and the unclean frogs are their companions, with their golden cups full of all abomination, and filthiness of fornication, the abominations of the earth, but ere long shall go into perdition, with all her costliness; for in the great militant church is found the blood of prophets and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth—Rev. xviii, 24—and they shall have their part in the lake of fire and brimstone, or second death, for they are dogs and sorcerers, whoremongers, murderers and idolaters.

Thus I have briefly cited the principal scriptures in the New Testament, as evidence, to prove the origin of our militant and orthodox churches, and that they never originated from the church of Christ, as true believers, but as unbelievers and deceivers, and their heads and leaders were magicians, wizzards, witches, devils, and damned spirits, as their works do testify to a demonstration; and if I have not proved it to the satisfaction of my readers, it must be said I have taken much pains and

proved nothing; and more of the same kind would be of no use.

But some readers can be ill at pleasure unless they can have the whole knowledge at once.

What troubles and sorrows have accompanied us, in this vile dirty planet of ours; each have had their hobby horse, their running horse, by sea and land, their drums and trumpets, fiddles, pallots and maggots: for my part I could wish their hobby horse to the devil, for it caused the whole world to run mad after it.—Why have they not ridden the last devil to death ere this.

By this kind of wind pedlars the people have been bubbled out of their goods, moneys, and even their reputation; their essence of gravity was designed for deceit and tricks, to gain wealth, and consequently credit, which was no better than a mysterious carriage of the body to cover the defects of the mind, which was a dirty action and none but dirty fellows would do so; but fools cannot digest those things and knaves will not,—why is not the world sick of it?

How often do those militant churches level a tale of dishonor at their neighbours, especially the lambskin church, which no innocence, or integrity of conduct can set right? The fortunes of their house shall totter, their characters will bleed on every side, their faith questioned, their works belied, their wit and charity forgotten, their learning trampled upon, cruelty and cowardice, two twin ruffians, set on by the malice of those hellhounds,, in the dark, strike together at all the infirmities and mistakes of their neighbours; thus innocent persons suffer, and their reputations are sacrificed; it is an easy matter to find sticks enough in any thicket, (where we have strayed) to make a fire to offer up the sacrifice, and therefore fall as many a worthy man has.

Those orthodox and militant churches, will affect a sad countenance, disfigure their faces, and lisp out poor man, he is gone, feel sorry, & preach his funeral sermon for five dollars, and perhaps as the case may be, throw a white stone in the grave, (to give

absolution like the Greeks,) thus the matter ends.

These are the children of God, with false tokens; how far will a strong wish and desire mislead mankind? By their benign gospel every man's character lives or dies, and seldom produces any thing better than sorrow and confusion, but the clergy can sing *te deum*, (a hymn of praise to God,) and it seems as if there was a strange kind of magic bias, that presses upon our characters and conduct, which perhaps some of our lambskins could unfold if they would.

How many there are who might have done well in the world, had not their characters and spirits been totally depressed and Nichodemused into nothing, by those human butchers; and how ready are they to bear down an opinion merely because it wants friends; and we are called Judas's at once, if we do not curse at all times with them; and the name Judas will accompany a person thro' life, like his shadow, and at the end make a rascal of him, in spite of all

the innocence and integrity of his life.

These are the glorious effects of this world's gospel! and it is carnal, sensual, devilish, and is nothing more nor less than college divinity; and it has gained an undisturbed entrance for many years, into our brains, and claims a sort of settlement there, and operates like yeast, after the manner of the passions, beginning in jest but ending in downright earnest; like all systematic reasoners, they will move if possible, heaven and earth, and twist and torture, body and soul, and every thing in nature, to support their systems of senseless jargon, and who-soever they curse in this world, they are unwilling they should enjoy any blessings after death, and fancy their happiness will increase in seeing the miseries of those they have anathematized and damned in this world, and since Adam there has been more knaves and fools than wise men; and to which class do our clergy belong? They have mutually destroyed each other since there was a church upon earth, or any combined societies; the church of Christ was for the general

good of all mankind, without partiality and hypocrisy; but party names stand high on the list of cannonized saints; Andrew was worse than nothing, John stands high, Martin low, Nick was the devil, but above all the name of universalist, was the most to be abhorred; nothing from this name was ever worth recording; no reformation ever follows this name, for all of this name are a worthless set of beings and ought carefully to be avoided.

Many a treatise has been written with great candour and modesty, showing their abhorrence and aversion to that name; how many sorrows they have felt for those of that name, which they esteemed no better than nincompoops.

By my beard I swear it, if ever malignant spirits took pleasure in traversing the purposes of mortal men, it must have been with our militant churches, for I have ever supposed that a man must be born before he could be sprinkled, but to save infants not a span long, the Papists sprinkled by injection, and this

was the only difference betwixt the Protestants, Lutherans, Calvinists, and Papists; this was by the orders of the doctors of Sarbonne, April 10th, 1733, [vide deventer, Paris edition, 4 to 1734 page 366.] thus they applied their saving ordinances to the little homunculi, (a little man or monkey) slap, dash, while others by sous condition.

It is a great misfortune to the school of Divinity, that they have such a vile itching for the honours of the world, and the glory thereof, and are so intent upon satisfying the impatience of their concupiscence, that they receive nothing as spiritual, but carnal, and the gospel is seemingly lost to the world; and I wish all people might think as well as read, for after we have followed every system of man's invention we are no nearer heaven than when we first started, for which we may thank our god fathers and god mothers.

Their systems are shandy systems, nothing more than air, and no better than murder; and thousands go out of the world, with the conceit of it

rotting in their heads. They have introduced two eternal self-existent beings, to exist eternally, and eternally at variance, and in order to be saved, they must reconcile those beings.

Thus they require impossibilities, and in consequence of Momus' glass (or devils telescope) being fixed in the human breast, God (who is love) appears awfully angry, and as anger resteth in the bosom of fools, what a character is attributed to the best of beings.

Those militant churches never use their telescope to discover their own societies, or their own consciences, but are ever leveling at those who differ from them, or at their neighbours; therefore their own faults are seldom seen or confessed;—thus the characters of their neighbours are drawn by wind instruments, and what is most unfair and cursed above all, is to make drawing of character in the camera, where we are represented in some of our most ridiculous attitudes, and not as setting at the great dinner.

What fertile source of obscurity, which has perplexed the clearest and most exalted understandings; our lives are put in jeopardy by words, but endless is the search of truth, and when their hobby horse grows headstrong, farewell cool reasoning and fair discretion.

I could wish the inventors of such religion to the devil, from whence it came, and whither it will return; go poor devil, with all your benign religion, this world is large enough for you and me—I want nothing of your religion, it is nothing but a curse to the world.

This ought to be realized by parents and governors, and why should a man be despised for desiring to look into their orthodox doctrines, (or sanctum sanctorum) for which if any attempt to do without licence, the spirit of slander and of spite is as swift as the wind, and like electricity runs through the whole.—The mysterious order not excepted.

The pulpit, the bar and the coffee house, is the common fire-side divinity in which time, the different doc.

trines, baptisms, sacraments, and their neighbours character are called in question, and it is as dangerous as to take a bear by the beard; the time has been to insult a saint, one would have his eyes scratched out, or the old house (Inquisitorial Prison) over his head, and this was called the religion of Jesus Christ, the holy religion of the Peaceable Lamb.

This is the liberty of the pulpit! How this winter gospel rises up and perplexes the faculties of the upper regions of our minds, and encompasses them about with clouds and thick darkness; and favour, and affection enter the sacred court of conscience; and wit has not disdained to take a bribe, and has become an advocate for an unwarrantable enjoyment, where interest does not stand neuter, whilst passion gets into the judgment seat; and the guilt or innocence of every man's life is generally known by no better measure than the degrees of their own approbation and censure. And they trust they have a good conscience, yet they can talk loud about the faults of others and

execute vengeance upon all such puny crimes, as their fortune and rank of life secured them against all temptation of committing; and they live as merrily, sleep as soundly, and meet death as unconcernedly as any man in life;—it seems as if they could rock their consciences to sleep at pleasure, and it is immaterial to me how rascals die. How easily can they work out a frame of little designs and tricks, upon the ignorance and perplexities of the poor and needy men, and raise a fortune from them, who unsuspectingly would trust them with their lives.

Those false churches educate their children, and commission them to go into the world to cheat and deceive the ignorant, and their consciences are apparently at rest in so doing; they see no scourge waving over their heads, or prisons gaping to receive them; what is there to disturb their consciences? Conscience has got safely entrenched behind the letter of the law, sits there invulnerable, fortified with cases and reports so strongly on all sides, that preaching cannot

dispossess it of its hold ; whilst hundreds are dispossessed of both interest and character ; and conscience shews no mercy nor pity, does not refuse secret plots and intrigues to bring about his purposes.

See the barefaced villians ! How they cheat, lie, steal, rob, commit perjury, and murder ! Oh ! horrid ! but nothing better can be expected from poor mortals that are in the dark ;—for their priests have the keeping of their consciences, and all they let them know of it is, they must believe in their holy catholic orthodox religion, go to meeting, pray at least twice a day, keep the Sabbath holy, &c. &c. &c. and this is sufficient to carry them to heaven.

Thus all their crimes are digested, and they do nicely, and all their transgressions healed, and through the efficacy of their good deeds, obtained absolution ; thus the heart of man is deceived, & every day treacherous to itself, and above all things desperately wicked.

Thus they set open the wide gate of deception and fraud to the unwary

and ignorant mortals, who are taken captive at their will, by speaking peace to them when there was no peace ; for the truth of what I say, I appeal to the hearts of all men, if their hearts are not in the ministers possession.

Here we see mankind surrounded with all the circumstances of folly and dishonor ; let every man consult his own merit, and faithfulness to his God and neighbors, let him call in religion and morality, consult truth and justice, and if their hearts do not condemn them, they may have confidence towards God, and judging themselves they will not be judged.

Blessed is the man indeed who is not pricked with conscience, and his mind shall tell him more than seven watchmen, which is better security for his behaviour than all the restrictions, which law makers are forced to multiply against those mischievous effects, of mischievous consciences, which are no law unto themselves, and they are only compelled to subjection, by the terror of jails and halters ; and what is deplorable, the

most of our religious characters in this world are wanting in common honesty.

Do these gentlemen belong to the church of Christ? They are covetous, revengeful, and subject to retailing falsehoods in a most remarkable manner; yet they can talk loudly against the infidelity of the age, zealous for some points of religion; attend church twice a day, partake of the sacrament, and thus they cheat their consciences into a belief that they are very religious people, and have discharged their duty to God and their neighbours; and from their exalted opinions of themselves, they look down with spiritual contempt upon those who have less affection of piety, tho' perhaps possessed of ten times as much honesty; and this is a sore evil under the sun.

This crusade religion spared neither age nor condition, they trampled on all who opposed them, without mercy, they heard not the cries of the unfortunate, nor pitied their distresses; yet are every day endeavouring to honor God by actions,

which are a dishonour and scandal to themselves.

Look at the inquisitions; see religion sitting ghastly upon a black tribunal, propped up with racks and instruments of torture and torment; by their mock trials, under the name of God and Christ.

This is their benign religion, without mercy; and when men talk loudly about religion, remember, that it is not their reason but their passions, which gets the better of their creed; and a bad life and a good belief are disagreeable and troublesome neighbours, and quietness ensues when they are separated; but they are governed by the ebbs and flows of their passions, and thus truth is kept down in the bottom of the well.

One ounce of a man's own wit is worth a ton of other people's, and every man's wit must come from his own soul, and no other persons; but the clergy generally have the wit and souls of their subjects in keeping, and they are poorly fed at best.

Anima is the breath, and animus the mind, thus it seems that mankind

hath two souls, and our clergy never pretend the salvation of but one, and which is it? they cannot save the breath, neither the mind, for they are mortal—it seems as if the world was in a conspiracy to drive out what little wit God has given us, for of all the cants in this world, the cants of hypocrites and criticism are the most tormenting.

The religion of our militant churches has done wonders; it has opened the sluices, turned the brains, shook the principles and unhinged the politics of the whole world; and all their orators wear mantles, in great style of design, and the children of the kingdom are born with a squirt; and then is introduced a thousand mysteries, about infinity, prescience, liberty of will, necessity, election, total depravity, immortality of the soul, &c. &c. which has cracked many fine heads, and puzzled many to distraction and death, and have and do still abominate each other, ten times worse than so many devils or devilesses, but they still effect courtesy and kindness, all milk and honey, they feign

would make the world believe, that they enjoyed a paradise on earth;—little do they suspect that there is a store of salvation for all mankind—but they keep writing and fighting, as if they were bent upon driving the world before them, some to hell, and some to heaven. What confusion!

Judging from outward appearances by seeing and hearing, trusting to the passions excited in an air sung, or a story painted to the heart; they are like a man standing on his head, who sees every thing the wrong way, and still persists in driving a dirty vexatious cause the wrong way, with all the stratagems of magicians, by their feints, forced marches, by sea, and land, surprise, ambuscades, mask batteries, and catching at a thousand other advantages; and if I speak a word against them, every bristle is up against me, and men of the least wit are frequently considered men of the most judgment, because they wear great wigs and mantles.

What inconsistent beings we are, to spend our lives in principles and doctrines, which are in plain contra-

diction to our knowledge, only because they have set out and durst not look back, for fear of being turned into a pillar of salt; and are ever trying to accommodate their doctrines to their feelings, and thereby ever endeavouring to do and perform impossibilities. Their doctrines seem to be hereditary, it was their great grandfather's, and has undergone many changes and modifications, and are still the self same doctrines that came out from the apostolic church.

This amounts to great story telling, and the clergy are taught where to begin, and where to end it, and what they are to leave out and how much they must cast into the shade, and whereabouts to throw their light; and if their light be darkness, how great is that darkness? for they have put darkness for light, and light for darkness, &c. (Isaiah, v. 20.) and those foul mouthed trumpeters of fame, pretend to the revelation of God's secret will, to some of their confidants while others are rejected, against whom they level their pyraboli and balista, (fire engines and stone slings.)

attended with a terrible tempest of tongue thunder—but very few can withstand the force of such artillery, which causes a flood of little distresses and evils to set in against them, and nothing goes right, and a cloud of sorrows break upon their devoted heads.

This is their benign gospel handed down from Simon Magus, and the Judaish Rabbies; but all is not gain that is got into the purse; thus they go puzzleing on, and will to the day of Judgment, (or until the millenium) or the time appointed for the expiration of the apostacy;—then the father of confusion can puzzle us no more, with his two senses of scripture, like two roads the one dirty the other clean, and our militant churches when they left the apostolical church took the foul and dirty road and have pursued it ever since, and it is now the broad road and leadeth to destruction, and many there are that walk therein. Defend us gracious Heaven, from these militant churches, never let me lay down in their tents.

Who cannot relax the engine and feel pity for the force of education, and the prevalence of opinions derived from ancestors, which we pick up as we would an apple or any thing else; it becomes our own, and we would quicker lose our lives than give it up, without conviction; thus it is with our orthodox christians, they have picked up a word or two of the Saviour's doctrine, and have a great deal of their own doings with it, and thus acquire and claim a property in the religion of Jesus Christ, and at all hazards they feel determined to defend it as their own, and will suffer no one to speak against it with impunity, for which they have spared no pains in picking them up.

How many millions of books, in all languages, in all possible types and bindings, have been fabricated, to spread their picked up gospel over the world; and how ridiculous it must appear to sensible men, who envy no man's comforts, nor their opinions, who blacken no man's character, devour no man's bread for nought, who will drop a tear for each one's sor-

row, and for each man's need will have a shilling.

These militant churches are ever intent on weeding their neighbour's consciences, for this their zeal is greater than their knowledge; and who can unravel the many opinions, transactions and truths which still lie mystically hid under the dark veil of the black one, (Popery.) It is worth something to have a good name, which the great part of the world under popery are destitute of, as fancy makes characters, and this kind of popular religion many times overthrows and destroys the peace of families and neighbourhoods, and ere long must fall off from the world, or the world off from that; for there is already a great stagnation of the popular religion in our world.

Such a religion as I have been describing is a real curse in society; Jacobus Starnius, and Leopold, Arch-Duke of Austria, and their Councilors employed their whole depth of knowledge, (the one a Lutheran, and the other a Papist,) in determining the points of Martin Luther's dam-

nation, who was a damned man, and his doctrines damnable doctrines too; but they determined the fate of thousands (whose souls were steeped in guilt,) that they must sail directly before the wind into the lake of hell fire. Thus with triumph this stuff has been preached, and spread abroad over the whole world, from the rivers to the ends of the earth.

This kind of doctrine runs more in their fancies than in their consciences, and it consists of a thousand contradictions, too absurd to be believed; and the world at large have followed the doctrines of the Popes, to Martin Luther, and from Martin Luther to John Calvin and Mahomet, and from Mahomet to the Devil, and it is so mysteriously interwoven, that the people will sooner give themselves to the devil, and trust fortune and luck, rather than be at the trouble to search out the truth of divinity.

Thus the world has been launched into the gulf of school divinity; and have all merrily sailed before the wind, through the seas of human

blood, and their object is, who shall be greatest.

To this kind of doctrine every gate and door has been set wide open, with as much resignation as would be done to a conquering hero;—is a man to be doomed to endless woe because he is deceived? It rejoices my heart to think there are a few who can trace out the true spring of such doctrines and reformatations; their doctrines are hard to be understood, because the vulgar look too high for them, and statesmen look too low, therefore truth lies in the middle.

The brains of those militant believers, have been so filled and perplexed with this kind of religion, that thousands could not follow their ordinary business, and like so many Judasses have been driven to hang themselves; such is their benign gospel, which they desire to be all in all.

Those militant churches consider Calvin and Luther to be equal to the ancient Trismegistus, as the greatest of all earthly beings, the greatest law giver, the greatest philosopher, and

the greatest priest; and to these adorable beings the world must pay homage.

Mahomet, the Popes of Rome, Luther and Calvin, have filled the world with more puzzling riddles than all Job's asses could carry; and how can any one set a grave face to such stuff? It is the fate of the unfortunate, to live among riddles and mysteries, squeezed out of the heads of the learned, which have many dark sides, at which the clearest and most exalted understandings amongst us find themselves puzzled and at a loss, and none but system builders can explain them.

Thus they have built up their Zion by human persuasion, and the few animal spirits and quick parts that mankind are endowed with, has been dispersed, confused, confounded, scattered and sent to the devil, by those Zion builders, who have been running to and fro like so many mad-caps, (encompassing sea and land,) full tilt through the great crowd of painters fiddlers, poets, biographers, physicians, lawyers, logicians, play-

ers, schoolmen, churchmen, statesmen, soldiers, casuists, connoisseurs, prelates, popes and engineers, with their saving ordinance, squirt in hand, christianizing as they go, and their proselytes are two fold more the children of hell than themselves, (if possible)—wholly governed by spleen, and are highly exalted when they are placed at the great diner, (sacrament) and by an air sung their, souls seem to be carried up to the other world.

This kind of college divinity comes from the wrong end of their ministers; it comes from their heads, and not from their hearts, and their doctrines they conceive to be a master stroke of arch wit, and their singularity of temper will never suffer them to set a wrong story right to the world, however it might be in their power; it seems as if their spirits were above it, besides they overlook the inventor, the propagator of an illiberal report, and liars seem to go unpunished, under the name of children of God, while others undeservedly bear the blame.

What is the life of man? is it not

to shift from side to side, from sorrow to sorrow? to button up one cause of vexation and unbutton another? I wish I could convey to every other brain the same impressions which are excited in my own, concerning those systematic Zion builders; I think there would not be so many wind pedlars, and soul savers in our land.

I have not been at all nice in the choice of my words nor value those squamish stomachs which take offence at it; I would that God would give them grace to be as wise as they wish to be, and then they could be happy in this world, and at death dart from earth to heaven in a moment.

What a marvel of marvels it is to see those catholic wind pedlars, go sneaking on, at such a pitiful, pimping, pettifogging rate, who will show no pity to the unfortunate, but are like roaring lions, seeking whom they may devour; those lions and tigers seem to fear every thing but doing wrong; who wrote to be famous, and their first thought was the temptation of the devil, and their writings

are a state of continual warfare, and have a militant probation first on earth.

This connected with the prejudice of education, is the devil and all, it is enough to provoke a stone to see how things are carried on in this world; and to understand all their hypotheses, we must cudgel our brains sore, and to do it without, we must have such brains as none ever had before us; and why should we put our brains to such torture? for stuff such as those orthodox ministers spread, it is not worth noticing. But how many squabbles the world have about nothing? They look at the outward appearance—science may be learned by rote, but wisdom cannot; he that hath wisdom hath but little more to wish for.

Many of the clergy enter their ministerial functions so late in life, that thousands suppose they will be advocates in another world; they are frequently heard disputing about wisdom at the age of seventy-five, and what time will they have to make use of it? There may be a north

west passage to the intellectual world, but every child has not a parent to point it out.

The clergy are early taught the wisdom of this world, (which is sensual and devilish,) so that they can discourse upon any subject pro and con to the admiration of thousands, and every new idea will engender millions, and these are like so many jack asses, what a braying they keep up to this day.

May heaven be their comforters, bray on; it is enough to burst one's head into a thousand splinters, and dumfound the whole world.

Those orthodox preachers are ever prophecying, pointing out future deaths and other troubles, by their death watches which they are wont to hear in the night season, and they are like so many military encampments, continually bombarding each other; every press is employed and every engine put in motion; they are continually besieging each other—oh what a tempest of tongue thunder!—What a braying among their commanders and leaders! What jeering

and sneering among their proselytes and soldiers, how they fight for King Jesus, that they may obtain an incorruptible crown.

Dear reader; the more I write the more I may, for there is no end to their infamous conduct; but one thing more I think will be worthy notice, i. e. the general conduct and behaviour of their heaven born children.

Notice some of your acquaintance, that before they joined those churches, were generous, social, kind, neighbourly, familiar and friendly; no sooner are they united with one of those militant churches, than they become biggotted, self-willed, haughty, proud and sovereign; they will sneer and jeer at sinners, and say I cannot invite them into my house, nor wish them God's speed—they become very zealous for the Sabbath and other holy days, and for the least offence, a fine must be collected, if it takes the last shilling;—and are themselves frequently overtaken in transgressions of every sort.

I leave the world to judge whether

they are not two fold more the children of hell than they were before they joined their blessed church; can it be so with the true church or kingdom of God? was it so with the church of Christ? God forbid!

Christian Reader—I will no more weary your patience, in reciting and detailing to you, the origin, doctrines, precepts and practices of the militant and orthodox churches, and kingdom of Anti-christ, which is a kingdom of darkness, terror and death: I shall now attempt to lead your minds from this kingdom of darkness and fear, to the delightful view of Mount Zion, the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, the true church, and first born of every creature, the joy of the whole earth, (not a part of the earth,) which are written in heaven, and to a view of God the Judge of all, and Jesus Christ the Mediator of the new covenant, which proclaims the joyful sound of peace and eternal life to all, even forgiveness and reconciliation through Jesus Christ our Lord: This is the true church in which God the father re-

sides, reconciling the world, not imputing their trespasses unto them—2d Cor. v, xix—This is the rock, or church, that death and hell shall not prevail against—Math. xvi, 18—this church is head over all things, (the same that was given Christ,) this is the body of Jesus Christ, that filleth all in all—Eph. i, 22, 23,—In this church is known the manifold wisdom of God, according to his eternal purpose, who he purposed; i. b. 1st 22, 23,—This is a glorious church without spot or wrinkle, or any such thing; i. b. v, 27,—all are baptized with the Holy Ghost, the chaff, or false doctrines, are all burned up;—they worship the true God, and him only do they serve; they have seen great light, that sit in the shadow of death.

The great head and shepherd of this church healed all manner of diseases and sickness among the people; (he did not kill any,) for the true church is the salt of the earth, and light of the world, and cannot be hid; it is no more nor less than the kingdom of heaven.

The members of this church resist not evil, smite them, and they will not smite again, they turn none away, that ask a reasonable favour; they love their enemies, they bless those that curse them, and do good to those that hate them, they pray for those that despitefully use them, and persecute them, (they have no inquisition and bastile.)

The head of this church sendeth rain, or blessings, on the just and on the unjust, (no respecter of persons,) this church is perfect as God is perfect—Math. v. 48.

Those who are so happy as to enjoy the spirit of this triumphant victorious church, never seek the praise of men; they forgive men their trespasses, there are no thieves in this church; they seek the welfare of their fellow creatures, they also have power given them to forgive the sins of the whole world, for the head of this church, will have meecy on the last sheep.

This is the kingdom of heaven which was at hand, and it was freely given for the good of the world; and it is

as sheep among wolves, and is as harmless as doves, for it is the spirit of God that speaketh in them.

This is the sword of truth, that sets mankind at variance—Math. x, 35.—It bringeth forth good things, and by their words they are justified: this is the church that doeth the will of their Father; to them it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, or gospel, and they bring forth fruit an hundred fold.

This church is the garner, or mansion house, and Jesus is the leaven that leaveneth the whole lump of Adam's race; this is the secret which was kept hid from the foundation of the world to the coming of Shilo;—since which it is revealing. This world, the kingdom of Anti-christ, the great church militant, is the field which the head of the true church purchased at the expense of his sufferings; this is the net that gathereth into the garner, of every kind, and casteth the bad away, (the church of Anti-christ,) and there shall be weeping, wailing, and gnashing of teeth: but their loss shall be their gain, and

every plant which Anti-christ has planted shall be rooted up, by the head of the true church, and the false church shall glorify the God of Israel.

This true church have the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and have power to bind satan, or Anti-christ on earth, and loose them that are bound all their life time through fear of death, they savour the things that be of God, and all things for which they ask, is given them, and their prayers are that the world should be saved.

These are they who keep the commandments of God, for no one that is exercised with love, which is the comforter, commit murder, adultery, or steal, bear false witness, lie, slander, or do any iniquity whatsoever; with man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible. They secure every man his penny, for so the head of the true church has a right for to do, for he is the servant of all men, and head of the corner to the disobedient, (church militant,)—1st Peter, ii, 7.

This is the Lord's doings and is marvelous in our eyes; this is the

great assembly that cometh forth in the first resurrection which is eternal life; who are all as the angels of God in heaven; they enjoy the sabbath of rest, for it was made for sinful man, and all their sins and blasphemies are forgiven.

And this is to go abroad and be made known, and these are they which are clothed in their right mind, and are made whole, and of good cheer, for their head has done all things well; there is no disputing in this church who shall be greatest in this world or kingdom of Anti-christ, they receive persecution that are exercised with the power and spirit of the true church, but in the world to come eternal life, for Jesus is the great ransom, who has ransomed all mankind—(pardoned or redeemed all mankind.) This was he who was to turn the disobedient to the wisdom of the just—Luke i, 17—to give light to them that sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death; to guide our feet into the way of peace.

These are the glad tidings of great joy, which shall be unto all people,

which is peace and good will to men, which makes the rough ways smooth, and the crooked straight, that all flesh should see the salvation of God, when the chaff is burned with unquenchable fire, and the wheat gathered into the garner; then they live by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God, or the head of this church.

God has poured out his spirit and annointed him to preach the gospel, (glad tidings,) to the poor, to heal the broken hearted, and preach deliverance to the captives, the recovery of sight to the blind, and to liberate them that are bruised; to preach the acceptable year of the Lord, for this therefore he was sent—Luke, iv, 18, for he was kind unto the unthankful and evil—Luke, vi, 35.

This is the true church, or house, that is founded on a rock, which is Christ, and cannot be shaken; these are they which hear the word of God and do it, and these preach the kingdom of God, or true church, which is the power of God, for why should man the noblest work of God, be lost or

cast away, as Christ came not to destroy, but to save: And satan fell like lightning from heaven, or true church, and the great accuser, (Anti-christ and his militant churches) is cast down, or has lost his power, or rejected, and mankind have no accuser but the law of Moses.

It is to be remembered that Jesus accuseth no man to the Father, and all things are delivered to Christ;—then it follows that all things compose the church of Christ; and no man knoweth who the Son is but the Father, and who the Father is but the Son, and he to whom the Son will reveal him; therefore all men do not enjoy the spirit of love in time, but still are heirs to that eternal inheritance with and through Christ, which was promised before the foundation of the world, and seem to be left desolate until they shall say, blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; who shall be recompensed at the resurrection of the just, and are compelled in, that his house, or church might be full, or complete.

Thus every man presseth into this

true church, or kingdom of God, in dying to all their idolatrous worship, and thus their inflamed tongues become cool, and are comforted through Him who died for them, and arose again for their justification, and these things cannot be known by observation, and as the lightning shineth from the east to the west, so shall it be in the day when the Son of Man shall be revealed, or made known to all flesh.

These things are possible with God, who hath immortality dwelling in light, who accomplished all things at Jerusalem that was written of Him in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the Psalms—Luke viii, 31 and 24—44, and i, 22.

They cannot die any more, for they are equal unto the Angels, and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection; for God is not a God of the dead but of the living, for all live unto him.

The head of the church triumphant, is he who taketh away the sin of the world, then it follows that there is a time, when the world will have

no sin, and that will be the time when the world will be saved, (not the elect only.)

This also is he who baptizeth with the Holy Ghost; except a man be born again, or made new, he cannot enter the kingdom of God; this was what God sent his Son into the world to do, which was to give mankind new hearts and to save the world; (not to damn it)—John iii, 17, for this purpose God gave all things into his hands, verse 35—that he should give eternal life to as many—John xvii, 2, and it was his meat and his drink to do the will of his Father, and to finish his work—John iv, 34.

The Son quickeneth, or maketh anew whom he will, and all judgment is committed unto the Son, that all men should honour the Son, viz. to worship, serve, and obey him; his church cannot exceed in glory, if all men are not included in it; God has given him authority to execute this judgment, because he is the Son of Man, and God hath so ordered the work, that all the Father gave him shall come to him; and this great

head over all things says, he will in no wise cast them out.

He came to do his Father's will, and his will is, of all the Father gave him, he should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day,—when all things are made new. The Father draweth all men unto the Son, to whom the Father gave them, that they all should be taught of God, for he appointed his Son to teach all nations and to baptize them with the Holy Ghost.

After all men have heard and learned of their Father, they came to Jesus their Mediator; I ask how can they come before they are taught of God? the bread of this triumphant church is given for the life of the world—or all things. If any one could come to Christ of himself, salvation could not be a free gift of God, it would be by merit, and if any believe not this they are dead in unbelief whilst they live in the world.

This great Shepherd of the triumphant church, laid down his life for his sheep, (all things) though they be dead yet they shall live; this is

the work of God, that ye believe on me whom he hath sent;—John vi, 29, and whosoever believeth in me shall never die; John xi, 26,—for he said if he were lifted up from the earth he would draw all men unto him; (or all things) and that he did not come to judge them that believe not but to save them;—John xii, 47.—for God gave him a commandment, this commandment was life everlasting.

Even the spirit of truth, which reproves the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment; and this great Shepherd declares that all the Father hath is his—(John xvi. 15.—then it is certain to a demonstration that there is nothing for the devil, that so much adored being. Jesus saith, all mine are thine, and thine are mine, and he was glorified in them, that is, admitted to eternal and perpetual glory, for his kingdom (or church) is not of this world; but he has been pleased to breathe on a few of them in this world, that they might be witnesses of his love; if his church were of this world then it would be a fighting church. John xviii, 36.

That he came from God, and went to God, and that his soul was not left in hell, (or the grave) whom the heavens must receive until the restitution of all things—(the same given to Christ) which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.—Acts iii. 21.

In him all the kindreds of the earth shall be blessed, in turning away every one from his iniquities, and then shall they walk in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, (or spirit of truth,) for God hath cleansed them.—Acts xi. 9.

This is the door of faith to the Gentiles, if they would abstain from pollution of idols, and from fornication, from things strangled, and from blood, from which if they kept themselves, they should do well. This was the decree for the Gentiles—Acts xv. 29. and what a ponderous load of Jewish ceremonies were omitted.

He hath given assurance unto all men, for it is more blessed to give than to receive—Acts xx. 35. and to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan, (or Anti-Christ,) unto

God ;—for the salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles, and they will hear it, for the free gift is of many offences unto justification, for by one's righteousness, the free gift came upon all men to justification of life, for he that is dead, is freed from sin—Rom. v. 16—18 & 67—because the creature shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption, in the glorious liberty of the sons of God, for neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us (all men) from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord ; (the Lord of the whole earth)—for God hath included them all in unbelief, that he might have mercy upon all.

How unsearchable are his ways and judgments, for whether we live or die, we are the Lord's ; with the true church there is nothing unclean of itself, therefore they never try to destroy a brother for whom Christ died.

O praise him all ye Gentiles ; loud
Y

him all ye people—for to whom he was not spoken of, they shall see, and they that have not heard shall understand; for which the world ought to give thanks, and not judge before the time but wait until the Lord comes, and every man shall have praise of God; for the kingdom (or church of God) is not in word but in power; that after we are delivered to satan (or Anti-Christ) our spirits may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

This is the gospel; and wo is me (saith the Apostle,) if I preach not the gospel. The true church gives none offence, to Jews nor Gentiles, nor to the church of God, for as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive; for this great Shepherd must reign, until he put all his enemies under his feet, death, the second death is the last; (for there are but two deaths)—when this is done, then God reigns all in all, and except we die this never can be; for we are sown in corruption, and raised in incorruption, sown in dishonour and raised in glory, sown in weak-

ness, but raised in power, sown a natural body, but raised a spiritual body.

The last is Adam a quickening spirit, and we shall all bear the image of the heavenly, when we are quickened, (or changed) for this mortal must put on immortality—1st Cor. xv—for though the outer man perish, yet the inner man is renewed day by day, and whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord—but God is in Christ reconciling the world to himself not imputing their trespasses; and to the Apostles (his church) were committed the word of reconciliation, whose weapons (or preaching) was mighty through God, the pulling down of strong holds; (satan's kingdom)—but the fruits of this triumphant church is love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance.—Gal. v. 22—23.

What an infinite difference in the spirit of the two churches? the one reaps life everlasting, the other corruption; (sinful inclinations)—the head of the true church preaches

peace and pardon unto them that were afar off, and to them that were nigh, for through him they both have access to the Father, by the same spirit, that the manifold wisdom of God might be known; and unto him be glory throughout all ages, because there is but one Lord, one faith and one baptism; and there is but one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in all.

This church is kind one to another, always forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven them. And the Lord doth nourish and cherish his church, for the true church is continually wrestling against principalities, powers, and the rulers of the darkness of this world, (militant churches)—against spiritual wickedness in high places; and I have strong consolation in believing, that at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow, of things in heaven (church militant) and things on earth, (civil power)—and things under the earth, (hell) and that every tongue shall confess, that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father;—for it

is God that worketh in the children of men, to will and to do of his good pleasure, and I hope he will not labour in vain, in reconciling all things unto himself, whether they be things in heaven, or things on earth;—(civil and Ecclesiastical)—and those that were enemies by wicked works, he hath reconciled:—Col. i. 20—21—to present them holy and unblamable, and unreprouvable in his sight. This is the gospel of Jesus Christ, whom the Apostles preached, that they might present every man perfect in Christ Jesus,—verse 28.—for their life is hid with Christ in God, and are united to the new man, where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision or uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, (unnatural and barbarous people, militant churches) bond nor free, but Christ is all in all.

They put on bowels of mercy, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness and long suffering; forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, and above all things charity is the band of perfection; such is the

true spirit of the great church triumphant.

Flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom (or Church) of God, therefore it is a spiritual church and kingdom, and the members are equal, for there is no difference; so likewise are the earthly, they are called carnal and there is no difference;—but as they have borne the image of the earthly, they shall also bear the image of the heavenly—1st Cor. xv 49.—for their exhortation is not of deceit, but they abound in love towards all men, walking honestly with all men, for their High Priest gave himself a ransom for all men, to be testified in due time, for he is the Saviour of all men.—1st Tim. iv, 10. Then it follows of course that all men are saved, from the foundation of the world, as He came to do his Father's will, and his Father's will was the salvation of all men, 1st Tim. ii, 4—who hath abolished death and hath brought life and immortality to light, through the gospel.

Then of course, this world will live with their High Priest, and this

life is love; and whoever in life hath this hath the Son abiding in him, and it is called a well of living water, springing up unto eternal life, and when exercised with this life, they cannot speak evil one of another, there will be no brawlers but will show all meekness to all men; it is but a drop from the great fountain.

How earnest are the desires of every true born child of God, for the salvation of all men? how clear and serene is the air? and even the face of the natural world seems to be changed; but oh how quick the transition! What thick clouds cover the mind? soon plunged into transgression again—return to their old houses again under Popery, and advocating for the devil, and for doctrines wholly contrary to their conversion; and what they daily and hourly pray for might be false.

I affirm that every christian knows that he was converted to the desire of the salvation of all men. And is God able and willing to satisfy their desires? God says he will—Psalms, cly 16.

As all things were given to Christ, the good shepherd, so he hath put all things under his feet, (below in condition implies submission) and he left nothing that is not put under him.

Notwithstanding we do not see how all things are put under him;—but Jesus hath tasted death for every man—Heb. ii, 8—9—and every man will sing praises unto him, for that he hath destroyed death and him that had the power of it, that is the devil, and delivered them that were subject to bondage, and them that were in bondage. It is the life and spirit of the true church, to have compassion on the ignorant, and those that are out of the way, who is made after the power of an endless life and was made surety of a better testament, and hath an unchangeable priesthood, and ever liveth for to make intercession for transgressors, who is consecrated forevermore; and through him all men are to know him, from the least to the greatest, for he will be merciful to their unrighteousness, (the false church) and their sins and

iniquities he will remember no more.

For that he hath obtained eternal redemption for the world, and his laws he will print in their minds, and write it in their hearts; and God has prepared for them a city, whose maker and builder is God, and saith God I will never leave thee nor forsake thee; therefore let the world offer the sacrifice of praise continually, giving thanks to his name, who giveth wisdom to all men liberally; from whom cometh every perfect gift, without any variation, or the least shadow of turning.

The wisdom of God is pure, peaceable, gentle, easy to be entreated full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy; therefore there are no hypocrites in the true church—no lying, cheating, stealing, forging, whoring and murdering in the great triumphant church, as in the great militant church, but have received the end of their faith, even the salvation of their souls.

To them Jesus Christ is precious, and he is the head of the corner to

the disobedient—1st Peter, ii, 7—
and are returned to the great Shep-
herd and Bishop of souls, for he hath
suffered for sins, for the unjust, to
bring them to God. For this cause
the gospel was preached to them that
were dead, but live to God in the
spirit;—1st Pet. iv, 6—for God is not
willing that any should perish, but
that all should come to repentance;
and is faithful to forgive the sins of
the whole world, and is a propitia-
tion for the sins of the whole world.
1st John, ii, 2.

If the whole world is pardoned,
why not all mankind enter the true
church in the dispensation of the ful-
ness of time, and thereby become the
sons of God? for the Father sent the
Son to be the Saviour of the world,
and it is recorded that God hath giv-
en us (the ungodly) eternal life; and
this life is in his son, and this is the
common salvation, and is given to all
the sons of men, and all men are
heirs through faithful Abraham, who
was to be heir of the world; and God
will write upon them his new name.

It is evident that God loved the

world, and sent his son to save it, and
as many as he loves he rebukes and
chastens; if it was not so they would
be bastards and not sons, but it was
his pleasure to create all things, and
all things (or every creature) that
was in heaven, earth, or under the
earth, and such as are in the seas.

John said he heard them giving
blessing, honour, glory and praise,
and the lamb shall feed them, and
God shall wipe away all tears from
their eyes, for all nations of the earth
shall come and worship before him;
and there shall be no more deaths,
neither sorrow, nor crying, nor pain,
for the former things are past away,
and all things are made new.

Oh happy period! These words
saith John are true and faithful; for
Jesus the great captain and head of
his church, will overcome, and Anti-
Christ and all his numerous militant
churches will be made anew; and
happy for them they will lose all their
former doctrines, and their holy court
of inquisition will not be wanted;
and Jesus was sent to testify these
things to the churches. Rev xxii, 16:

Thus I have recited a few out of the many passages of scripture in the New Testament, which I consider is full in support of the origin of the true church to be of God, and the spirit, practice, doctrine and precepts of the Saviour, and his church to be wholly different from the spirit, practices, doctrines and precepts of the militant churches; and I think it is proved to a demonstration, that all churches in the present world are a continuation of the Jewish false church, and their head and founder is Anti-Christ, operating in their leaders, through every succeeding age to the present time; and the spirit of God which is the life of the true church, has been sensibly known and experienced by thousands, who have ever been wrestling against spiritual wickedness in high places. (which is idolatry.)

Between these two doctrines, (gospel and idolatry) Jesus has kindled a fire, and this fire never will be quenched, but will subdue and reconcile all things to himself, in which glorious prospect my soul is anchor-

ed for all men; believing the fulness of time will come, when sin and every degree of unreconciliation will be destroyed, by the divine power which is stronger than death; in which alone I place my trust.

Truth will be victorious, and error, (idolatry,) will flee to eternal night, and temptation no more trouble the lovers of God, nor sin poison the human heart.

Oh, transporting thought! Then shall the blessed Saviour see of the travail of his soul, and be satisfied; then will the world be delivered from the bondage of corruption, and be restored to perfect reconciliation to God, in the heavenly Adam; then shall the great object of the Saviour's mission be accomplished; then where will be the sting of death, for death shall not be; where will hell's victory be? The boaster will be silent, the Son deliver up the kingdom to God the Father, the eternal radiance shall smile, and God shall be all and in all.

I shall close with a few remarks upon the lambskin church which com-

monly passes under different names, such as the mystic order, i. e. a thing concealed, a secret not easily comprehended, also an art or trade, and this secret is masonry.

This church is known in the world under the name of Free and Accepted Masons. Lodge, &c. which signifies apartment, secret chamber, &c. and opening this church, or lodges, setting the men to work, and seeing the lodge tyed, is the chief care of masons, (tyed is seeing that a sentry is placed at the door, a doorkeeper to guard the church or lodge.)

The setting the church to work, is allowing them all to speak freely of the mysteries of their church, or order, in the name of the holy St John, forbidding all cursing, swearing, or whispering, and all profane discourse whatever, under the penalty of what the majority shall think proper.

How often do we hear mason's say that a mason is a christian? Yet swearing is prevalent in their sacred devotions, with the Bible open at the gospel of St. John, which emblematically is the rule of their faith; this is

their manner of preparing their church for sacred and social worship; they declare to the world that their society is respectable and honourable, and must be revered, and that it admits of nothing contrary to law, religion or morality; notwithstanding when out of their secret chamber, are they not given and adicted to all the works of the flesh, like the false church, such as adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulation, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revelings,—Gal. v, 19, &c.—(attended with wanton songs and behaviour, all of which this synagogue of satan is replete,) and is not a secret, for it is believed by the world that nothing is more common among them, than perjury, deception, and fraud; that these are their stars in thrones throughout the world, and they delight in taking a bumper in the secret chambers, or out, (or bunter,) which adds a lustre to their church, the members vie with each other, who

shall most excel, and this is not a secret neither.

Their own writers declare that masonry is a secret, then it follows the general conduct and behaviour of the members of this church is neither masonry nor religion. What then must we call it? We will call it ancient masonry, which Salem Towne says, is ancient christianity, and ancient christianity was idolatry, and idolatry is Popery, and Pope Sylvester, 2d contracted with the devil for it. See the Master key of Popery.

Here then is the origin of ancient masonry, the great wonder of all ages, but it is no secret, for the world is sensible that it came from the devil, and they all acknowledge they are first made masons in their hearts, (which is the 6th question of the entered apprentice's lecture,) then the devil is in the hearts of all ancient masons, and ancient masonry and christianity is the origin of all modern masonry & christianity, & ancient masonry and christianity was obtained by being a free born, and well reported as lovers of the institution and

inquisition; and at the present day a man must express a great deal of love for their institution or they cannot be admitted into the sacred, or satanic order.

The candidate is not compelled to renounce the world, the flesh, and the devil, but we frequently hear them renounce the holy bible, (which they declare to be the rule of their faith,) divine revelation; and the Lord Jesus Christ, which many of them affirm is a d-d bastard; such talk as this must be the legacy of Pope Sylvester, 2d.

In their mock prayers, they address God, as the great universal mason of the world, or first builder of man, and charge him of promising to be in the midst of them, and bless them. Do they believe God will bless them in perjury, adultery, and all sorts of wickedness?

They pray also that they might be one, through Jesus Christ (their d-d bastard,) pretending to put their trust in God their great brother mason to help them, supposing that he will be as partial as they are to help one an-

other out of bad scrapes, and to cheat others, whom they call the rubbish of the world: (what a lovely set of christians) here is to the heart that conceals, and the tongue that never reveals, but what do they conceal? They do not conceal their sins, secret plots and open crimes, and they do not reveal truth, but error, and to righteousness and peace they are strangers.

Is this the true church? By no means, it is the very spawn of Anti-Christ, contained in the last will and testament of Pope Sylvester, 2d. How they desire to bring the whole world to light? And yet declare that masonry will never be revealed.—How their outward ornaments shine? How beautiful they appear when ornamented with white aprons, an emblem of innocence, which they say is more ancient than the golden fleece or the Roman eagle, more honorable than the star and garter, or any other order under the sun.

What innocent lambs they are; What honourable creatures they are! They sound their own trumpet of

fame, and Nicodemus all the rest, with their balista and momus glass, (or devil's telescope,) the common gavel ought to be applied to all such and knock off all such superfluous stuff, that degrades the man or mason.

Their mock creed is to set apart six hours to serve God, and six to serve a brother or friend; (poor service to God) but this is the great mystery, how can they serve God and mammon, it is impossible for others to do.

A great mystery! The mysterys of iniquity, handed down from the devil to the Pope, and from the Popes to to the lambskin's. What pleasures they enjoy! What purity of sentiments! What uniformity reigns in their assemblies!

This they conceive in their hearts while they are hood winked, before their eyes discover; and as the candidate when hood winked was in the dark, so they are sworn to keep all the world in darkness; what a pretty religion! They pretend to control the light, or providence of God.

Who said let there be light and

there was light? this is not masonry for it is no secret; I ask if the masons are the agents of divine light, life and love? They impiously pretend there were three Grand Masters that built the world, but do not say whether they were entered apprentices, fellow craft, masters, mark masters, or royal arch masons; this must be another secret; but at any rate they are all brethren, yet one of them was a d—d bastard and the virgin Mary a whore; what horrid blasphemies!

The No. 3, forms the Grand Lodge above, and was the number of grand masons in the building of Solomon's Temple; 5, forms a Lodge in commemoration of the five senses; 7, forms a Lodge in allusion to the seven liberal sciences; 11, forms a Lodge, in allusion to the eleven Apostles, after Judas betrayed the bastard.

They acknowledge masonry to be universal, but never can be revealed; a great secret, yet universal; admirable logic!

They say their church is support-

ed by three great pillars, wisdom, strength and beauty. What strength there is among masons to carry into effect their designs and intrigues; what remarkable wisdom they are possessed of! How their conduct beautifies their order!

The pillar of wisdom represents the Master in the east, the pillar of strength the Senior Warden, the pillar of beauty the Junior Warden. What lovely guardians! How they guard their church members against the assaults of the rubbish of this world, (or sheep of another fold.)—How they observe their due guard? They will sooner have their throat cut across than to reveal the true religion to the rubbish of the world,—notwithstanding masonry is universal, and never can be revealed.—Brother reader, be astonished at such logic.

They are different from the rest of the rubbish of this world, even their wind is different; a mason's or christian's wind blows due east and west, and the rubbish of this world never can be benefited by the mason's wind.

This is ancient masonry ; but modern mason's wind blows every where, and in every direction, and they are a windy fraternity, for no mortals can more, the ladies adore, than a free and accepted mason, saith their own poets.

What heaven-born children ! What strength brother Jochim has got ! And how brother Boaz is established in the Lord ! (or bastard.)

Masonry is true religion, still they advance from one degree to another, to become more perfect, so as never to wrong a brother nor see him wronged, but give him timely notice of all approaching danger. What blessed Zion builders they are to keep each others secrets, treason and murder excepted, this is at their own free will, to reveal or not.

Can any suppose that this is the true church ? It is not the church of Christ ; for him they renounce for a bastard ; then it is of Anti-christ, for in the true church there are no murders, but that cannot be said of this church, although the doctrine of masonry is true religion there were three

fellow crafts that wanted something more, and their great desire for the secret, which was never to be revealed, stimulated them to the act of murdering their master Hiram, that they might make themselves honourable, while twelve recanted and turned Judases, and were ready to go in search of their three brothers ; for these three came very near destroying the whole system, but they say it has lasted and will ever last ; so said the Jews of their church.

But thousands of our modern mason's will falsify their oaths, as is believed by the rubbish of the world, & jeopardize the lives of their brethren and institution, for a little money. What good does a secret do the world if it is never to be known ? And as three fellow crafts made use of their emblems of innocence (aprons) in carrying out the rubbish, to prevent suspicion of the murder, so do our modern masons make use of religion to cover their foul actions and base conduct from the eyes of the world, the better to effect their purposes, and

their grand object is honor and promotion (enemies to religion.)

They are taught to explain and construe their emblems, or images into morality and religion, but their sole aim is, by a sort of sneaking, skulking friendship, to promote each other; and combine with one common interest, to connive, cheat, and deceive the ignorant, like a crab they will run any way their wind blows.

They constantly wear a gag, which is their oath, that they cannot reason with one of the rubbish of the world, (and some of those they have abominated for fear their holy religion would be discovered,) they are the offspring of Nicodemus, who professed faith in private, and it is a very private religion, and much good may it do them, what holy ground they do occupy! They must take their shoes off.

What I have been reciting is termed working; what an industrious church! What a fruitful source of wickedness and iniquity! And all this done for the good of masonry, or religion. They are bound to maintain good order and regularity in their

secret retirement, and not out of it; what is done in private is hid from the world, but the rest of their conduct is seen and known.

What worthy masons! How it regulates their morals and squares the mind! How they are bound in brotherly love! No prying eye can view us here, is their boast; no fools or knaves disturb our cheer, all nature open to our view, say they, points out the path they do pursue, all virtues they do claim, and those unborn their praise proclaim.

What virtuous creatures they are! Their deeds meritorious never censorious; I would to God that every free mason would be distinguished by the internal ornament of an upright heart, and a sound conscience, instead of a rotten fortune.

Their institution recommends to live creditably; who lives to it?—They are possessed with selfishness, pride, envy and wrath, which are the elements of hell; they do not avoid ill manners, nor excess. It is considered honourable to wave to and fro, to deceive, and it is highly com-

mendable to treat false pretenders with contempt; they prefer a brother to any other man; what partial religion! These ancient christians are never to suffer any to slander the brethren, but are bound to defend their character.

This is their benign religion, confined within the narrow circle of a sorry Lodge! This is the adorable secret art! This is the beauty of brotherly love, confined to a snotty race of foppish gentlemen! What virtuous motives, to conceal their tenets and principles of polity, under hyeroglyphical figures, and express their notions by signs and symbols, and are under oath not to reveal them.

This religion is deaf and dumb, and only to be known by signs; and they expect to gain admittance into the celestial mansions by the key word, where their grand architect mason resides; where a sentinel is posted with a flaming sword, to keep out all the rest. How universal this would be! It is but three steps to heaven, and these steps are faith, hope, and charity.

No people are more fruitful in hypocrisy and deceit; how often are they guilty of dishonourable actions? This is not a secret.

If any do not add to the common stock of knowledge, he is considered a drone; and what a vast number of drones they must have in this mock church, yet they can lisp out, I have found it; it is a fine prize and noble gift from Pope Sylvester, 2d. Speculative Free Masonry is connected with speculation either divine or natural, but is considered as opposed to natural and operative. These mysterious christians boast of their system being founded on the rock of eternal ages, which is Christ; they consider God a mason, or christian but not Jesus Christ—they have dedicated their Lodge, (or church) to St. John the baptist, and to St. John the Divine (or Revelator,) but not to Christ, yet Mr. Town speaks of the adorable persons in the Trinity;—See Salem Town's Speculative Masonry, page 25. Mr. Town considers those outward forms and ceremonies, as a shadow without substance. I ask them what is the spir-

itual understanding of Speculative Free Masonry? Mr. Town thinks it is the great mystery of God in the plan of redemption; a mystery of mysteries, a trinity in unity—page 32—and one of the sacred three is a bastard.

Masonry he supposes is uncreated divinity, and all this divinity is nothing unless we approve the instructions in our hearts, and practice them in our lives and conduct:—If this is true, what claim have our knuckle pinchers, to masonry more than any other person? How are they benefited by the Saviour's merit, whilst they reject him.

If masonry tends to happify the human family, why do they not proclaim it to the world, and thereby bring the world to light? Well might they say it is beyond the power of man.

Mr. Town says their tenets are not a secret; what is then? It is their selfish, partial, speculative views and when laid open to view, their countenance visibly speaks shame; it is no secret says Mr. Town, that ma-

sonry is of divine origin; it is no secret that masonry embraces and inculcates evangelical truth; it is no secret that there is not a duty enjoined, nor a virtue required, in the volume of inspiration, but what is found in and taught by Speculative Free Masonry; it is not a secret, that the appropriate name of God has been preserved in their institution—page 37.—In every country where masonry has existed, while the rest of the world was sunk in heathenism.

Here Mr. Town declares masonry to be of God, and of course is the spirit of God, which is love. What lovely christians they are! How they love the bible! It is no secret that the greater part of those chamber born christians, despise that book, yet swear by it; it is not a secret that they make use of the precepts of that book eternally, for a veil to cover their secret diabolical acts.

They pretend a great reverence for the name of God, in memory of the surprise of the fellow crafts, on finding their master dead, and in a mangled condition, they cried out, with

their hands above their heads lifted up exclaimed, O Lord my God! This king Solomon adopted for the sign of a master mason in distress, and is the word to this day.

One thing more is no secret, that masons when sitting as Jurors, will side for their brethren, and wrest judgment; and it is believed, and is no secret, that they will swear false for one another. It is no secret that as a people they are finished knaves, as believed by people generally; it is not a secret, that they are polite and finished bordilors; and it is no secret that they make a pretension to morality and religion, to cover those very designs and practices, and I hope the world will justly hold them in suspicion.

Town declares also, that all mankind from the nature of their existence are constituted members of this common society, to which I say, Amen; then why do they reject any? page 40.

It is not a secret to me that all combined societies are actuated by selfish motives, and selfishness is an

element of hell, therefore is not the true church.

Mr. Town says, masonry considers the whole human family as brethren--page 50--if true, why not treat them accordingly? It is plain that they are false pretenders, and not what they wish to be, (except they wish to be knaves and hypocrites.)

Mr. Town says that modern masonry is religious, that they must maintain secrecy, that which he has before declared to be no secret; admirable logic! But like the waterman look one way and row another; and row on brother masons with your mysteries.

What meek and humble christians they are! What precious jewels they wear! Which are a listening ear, a silent tongue, and a faithful heart;—these are as fine ornaments for masons, as jewels are for a swine's snout or an Indian's nose; according to their conduct the following jewels would fit them best, an itching ear, an unruly tongue, and a deceitful heart, for those jewels are no secret; but those knuckle pinchers and cham-

herpot christians, boast of one secret that the rubbish cannot obtain, viz. their new and heavenly name which is found in a little white stone; this is what raises them above all subliminary things, and this was designed for all the human family, yet is withheld from all but this selected few.

I wish I had that gem of great price, and that they had in heart as well as head; their divinity comes from the wrong end of them; the two Holy St. John's are the boast of this church; they are held in greater veneration than Jesus Christ our Lord, because he was more familiar with them; and they appear to consider them two Saints, greater in masonry than the Lord Jesus Christ; & these Saints said, that this name was God, (or word,) and this word was made flesh, and dwelt upon the earth, and is a tried stone, the true foundation; and our modern Nicodemites, reject this very stone, because he did not keep secret this hidden wisdom; and call him an impostor for attempting to reveal that which had been

kept a secret from the foundation of the world.

He also said, that there was nothing covered, that shall not be revealed, neither hid that shall not be made known—Luke, xii, 2—And this is that white stone, which in the dispensation of the fulness of time was to be made known; but if it was hidden, it would be a stone of darkness; according to our modern masons, they make it a hidden stone, or a black one, which would denote death instead of life.

Casting a white stone into the grave was a custom among the Greeks, denoting absolution of an accused person, and this practice originated from an idolatrous people, and the practice is idolatry.

Mr. Town declares masonry to be co-existent with the Almighty, but did not exist in an organized state until Solomon, King of Israel, which if true spiritual masonry is of God, and man cannot control it; and organizing into private societies, is the work of the devil, for it is evident that the organized state of masonry,

sprung from an idolatrous people, and idolators are devils, and their doctrines devil's doctrines.

Now can those Nicodemites be called the true church, and practice idolatry? And this order, from that time introduced a kind of mysterious language, unknown to the world, that they might forever after make themselves known to each other; this is their great secret so much adored; but as actions speak as plain as words their language is pretty well known to the world.

Mr. Town thinks the Druids were masons; be it so; they held to the immortality of the soul, and that is a false doctrine certain; these Druids were the Pagan priests of the ancient Brittons and Gauls who lived naked in the woods, giving themselves to the study of philosophy and avoiding company as much as possible; they celebrated their superstitious rites and ceremonies, under oaks, &c.

Mr. Town supposed that masonry originated from them, because they had mysteries, and taught in private, but Mr. Town must remember that

they were heathen mysteries, and so are all mysteries heathenish that are invented by man.

Mr. Town informs us that masonry was not extensively cultivated until about five or six hundred years after the commencement of the christian era, the very time Mahometanism, Judaism, Paganism, and Popery arose; and practical masonry, mahometanism and popery, has kept pace with each other ever since, p. 107—8--& they are ever endeavouring to beautify their order by annexing to it the christian religion, as did the philosophers of Alexandria, and in conceit have immortalized themselves, but they must remember they are but men.

Mr. Town declares President Washington immortal, this they think is a great feather in their cap, but it is idolatry in the highest sense; he also declares, that masonry and christianity together are productive of the best society—Amen. I ask in my turn, is masonry and idolatry productive of the best society? God forbid! Chris-

tianity with masonry is productive of the best society—page 114—15.

Mr. Town says king David affords examples of masonic virtues; so it appears, by killing Uriah to obtain his wife; apprizing each other of approaching dangers is used for the vilest purposes, it enables rascals and villains to escape unpunished, and the innocent suffer—this is no secret.

For this cause and many others of like nature, many have withdrawn themselves from them; they pretend that none but approved characters can be admitted; and as these are the vilest characters among them, their religion tends to demoralize & is seldom known to better their behaviour and manners, for many of them are the most insolent of any people whatever.

If masonry is religion, nothing can be added to it nor diminished from it, and great men's joining makes it ne'er the better, but it gives them greater power, and greater opportunities to perform their diabolical acts, and carry into execution their infernal purposes.

Mr. Town says who can find out the Almighty to perfection? Page 131. I answer no man, but the Free and Accepted Masons have searched and found out the devil to perfection, for this their works do testify, for they will construe honest intentions into knavery, and shame the best of motives, and will start an illiberal report, and manage it prudently.

These are our modern Speculative Masons, they are spiritual pick-pockets, like the fairy's who gad about nights, dancing in companies and carrying on their infernal works out of the sight of the rubbish of the world.

But as it happens, I have penetrated the dark veil, and am daily persecuted for it; and they endeavour to scratch my eyes out for peeping into their sanctum sanctorum.

Mr. Town thinks the institution is rapidly increasing in number and respectability, and patrons are greatly multiplied, from the most respectable part of community; if they have any respectability it must come from some other class of people—page 177—for their holy religion as Mr. Town calls

it, is too well known to be respected, their conduct is far from rendering mankind amiable and lovely in the eyes of the world.

Mr. Town says, multitudes of ancient brethren have enrolled their names on the imperishable records of fame—page 184. I acknowledge fame is their object and they are ever endeavouring to build up their own characters upon the ruins of others; in this practice they too well succeed, and I hope free thinkers will look to them.

Mr. Town himself acknowledges the degeneracy of many pretended Masons, who having thrown off all restraint disgraced themselves, their friends and families, and justly merited the sovereign contempt of the world, or rubbish.

I ask what good all this hood winking, halter wearing, and knuckle pinching, winking and blinking do, if it only serves to make them worse & more ungentlemanlike?

Mr. Town says, that each individual is, or ought to be a watchful sentinel over the happiness of mankind,

page 189—this is true, and their care seems to be to destroy the happiness of all except their brethren; this seems to be speculative masonry.

He also says, that the precepts of masonry are an insurmountable barrier against every immoral person—page 199. Then it stands against the great body of Free Masons, and no wonder they acknowledge they cannot live according to the principles of their institution; one might as well sit still as to rise up and fall. Those Mr. Town calls the rubbish of the world in one place and another the most valuable part of community. See page 200—233—and I think so myself.

Then masonry makes them worse, and the most fine gold becomes dim, and proves not a blessing but a real curse.

Mr. Town considers masonry the angel of mercy in protecting the revelations of grace. What plausible logic! What a whited wall! How beautiful the appearance! How clean he makes the cup! What a whited sepulchre! But within is full of hye

pocrisies and iniquity. They have Nicodemused and destroyed thousands, and thousands are in pursuit of it, like following the rainbow to get the silver spoon; ever learning but never able to come to the knowledge of the whole truth, and in this pursuit they have picked up idolatry and dedicated it to St. John, and have called that masonry, and I think it is clearly proved that this church is not the true church, and only sprung from Solomon's classing the workmen, similar to an army of men, by companies, battalions, regiments and brigades, with the regular appointment of officers, the soldier to pay them their wages; also adopted countersigns & tokens, so that there should not be any deception or cheat on receiving their pay. From this sprung the great wonder of the world, and they have endeavoured to beautify it with religion and the honor of great men.

The kings of the earth (who were called gods) have carried their glory and honour into it, and Pope Sylvester, 2d carried his glory and honour into it, and Cain's posterity carried

their honour into it; what a great and glorious church it is! But it is not immortal, nor eternal, and must have an end, for it is of men; its members are full of sneering, jeering, scoffing, turning up the nose, standing off, shunning false pretenders (as they call them,) all of which is evidence they belong to the church of Antichrist, for the true church does not admit of the glory and honour of this world for they are carnal.

Thus kind reader, for your sake I have given a short and concise recital of the origin of masonry as I could, which no mason I think will dispute if he is honest; but he may not believe that Pope Sylvester, 2d purchased it of the devil, but I have shown that it came from idolatry, and idolatry is Popery—See the *Life of Coustos*, or *Key of Popery*, page 191.

I am fully persuaded that there is not a true church on earth; the baptists say their church, is the true church, the kingdom of heaven and council of God; notwithstanding they are exercised with selfishness, pride, wrath & envy, these are the elements

of hell, and are never known in the true church, or kingdom of heaven.

The Baptists seem to originate from the Sabeans, a christian sect, who patched up christianism, Judaism, Mahometanism, and Heathenish superstition together; they receive baptism in commemoration of John's baptizing, but do not administer in the name of the Trinity; they own four sacraments, baptisms, the eucharist, orders or priesthood, and marriage. Their ministers and laity are allowed each of them two wives—(see Bailey's Dictionary) they live under the dominion of the Shebas in Arabia, and were the offspring of those Shebas; one tribe lived in the deserts of Arabia, near the land of Uz, and stole Job's cattle, and of course were thievish christians.

Our present baptists own their origin to be from the Waldences, they have passed under various names from the day of John Baptist, they were called Wickliffs; John Wickliff, so mauled the Pope that he was called an arch heretic, ever after this day they were called heretics, and

suffered much from the holy inquisition, in England, under Protestantism; they were called nonconformists, and eight thousand suffered martyrdom by the Calvinists and Lutherans.

But at this day, many of them have bowed the knee to Baal, and received the doctrines and principles of their executioners, which is no better than kissing the Pope's toe; to conclude, the baptists, by their doctrines, precepts, and examples well comport with the militant and orthodox churches; and disaffection, strife, deception and tumult are their general traits, and of course are a branch of the church of Anti-christ. And so it will prove if we examine every other church (or assembly,) in this lower world; and from what I have written I think I am justly excused from entering into any further detail.

The Scriptures were written by holy men, therefore they were called the Holy Scriptures, and are the records of eternal life; but eternal life is not in the scriptures, but in the

Son of God, and this life is the gospel, and is quick and powerful, and incorruptible; if this could be said of the scriptures, they never could have been adulterated, perverted, or destroyed,—but this quickning spirit or gospel, can never be perverted or destroyed.

Though the harmless christians should be destroyed, the word of God (or gospel) would appear again in others, which the scriptures never can communicate; and what was commanded or enjoined on one nation, is not binding on all the human family.

In every succeeding age, and nation it has been the deception of Anti-christ, to suppose the scriptures are the only rule to direct us; God is not beholden to letters to reveal his will, and the ridiculous doctrine that God actually died, has given occasion to the blind error of the Anti-christian world, that the bible was his last will and testament, and the Priests his executors and administrators, and until the veil which is cast over all flesh, is taken away, the

scriptures can never be understood; neither its precepts kept uncorrupted, through the apostacy or the dark reign of Anti-christ, as they have been misunderstood and grossly perverted, and forced out of their true sense, in order to misrepresent the true character and purposes of God. For the truth of this, look at the numerous divided sectaries, who for ages have been contending about the sense of the scriptures, and shedding each other's blood in defence of their own opinions.

In consequence of establishing the scriptures to be the word of God for all future ages, the comments and precepts of men have prevailed, by the doctrine of eternal and unconditional decrees, whose advocates could not invent tortures and torments bad enough in this vile world, therefore have invented infinite and eternal torments, beyond the stary regions; and millions of millions have been reprobated and doomed to eternal and final perdition, because they were born before the coming of Christ.

The scriptures intimate no such

thing, as souls being destined to their unchangeable eternity at their death, and reserved for a final settlement with eternal justice; thus the senses are allured towards a world of spirits, that is invisible by reason of human depravity.

The Saviour said no man hath ascended into heaven, and perhaps never will, until the dispensation of the fulness of time takes place; the old world Sodom and Gomorrah, the Jews and many other nations have been systematically bound in chains of eternal darkness, by men more wicked and beastly than they.

But who knew their situation the best, the inventors of human systems, or the Son of God, that had the keys of death and hell? He did not confine his labours to a little flock of total depravity and hell believers;—the Apostles knew better, the thief knew better.

The voice of our saviour was not confined to saints alone, in this or the world of spirits, but was impartially extended to all, not overlooking the disobedient, that had forfeit-

ed the blessings of former dispensations; he went and preached to the spirits in prison;—it is inconsistent with a God of justice and correctness, that his works should be confined to the contracted limits of this inferior globe, while worlds of worlds are open to his view; or that the millions of departed spirits, should be bound in chains of eternal darkness, without ever hearing of his gospel or eternal life.

Thus the reader will see the foundation of the great apostacy or breaking; though the ways of God are past finding out, and are dark and mysterious to all flesh.

I have written without any design of either pleasing or displeasing, notwithstanding I have used great plainness of speech in expressing the last state of our militant churches, in different ages, as sunk in corruptions and lusts of a carnal nature; it is enough for christians to believe, what God hath wrought in their hearts, which amounts to a desire for the salvation of all mankind, and to the forgiveness of the whole world; and

by obedience to this spirit I hope that they may reap the everlasting benefit.

It requires nothing more, than for the mind to be entirely divested of prejudice and false education, to believe this, and in fact it is impossible, for any who are simply honest to believe in any other gospel.

I have declared to you kind reader that there was a falling away, and that Anti-christ has reigned and does now reign, and that there is no true church on earth, and these things are not fables, or matters of mere speculation, for the Saviour was revealed for salvation to the ends of the earth; but is certain that the false spirit of Anti-christ does yet exist and will still continue to the time appointed of God, and will slander and misrepresent the true gospel and true church.

Anti-christ's priesthood, is a time serving priesthood, which neither know what they say nor whereof they affirm; who will gather up and circulate every lying report, and call it God's true religion; and through en-

vy stir up the baser sort to abuse people, and destroy both lives and property, as they have often done, and hypocritically call themselves the children of God, and their church the church of Christ; and these christians have and may yet destroy thousands and millions of their fellow men.

There is nothing said about the wickedness of such example, nor any concern expressed about the world's coming to an end; from such unreasonable, unscriptural and senseless superstition, good Lord in mercy deliver us.

What millions from sequestered vallies and desolate mountains, from lonely cottages and silent groves, from torture rooms, racks and devouring flames, have looked, have wept, and prayed towards the latter day of liberty and peace, how unspeakably great are our privileges at this day, under blessings of divine providence, both civil and ecclesiastical.

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erty, ever raised on the earth since Adam ; and I solicit you kind reader, with others, to enjoy those privileges, and think for yourselves, and above all things maintain virtue and true religion, which eventually will become the desire of all the nations of the earth, when unshackled from superstition, unbiased by the terrors of tyranny, and redeemed from false systems, and the reigning power of iniquity, by which the world of mankind have been and are held in bondage.

You ought kind reader to stand free, to judge between truth and error, light and darkness, good and evil, and choose that, you think will be productive of the greatest present and eternal good ; and as far as in your power, set good examples, and live peaceably with all men, and owe no man any thing, and be faithful to prove that you are not bastards, but sons and daughters just and rightful heirs to the promised inheritance, through whom all the families of the earth shall be blessed, in turning away every one from his iniquities.

Then will be organized the true church, which will be the everlasting kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ ; to this church your spirits belong, and it is a spiritual kingdom, which Jesus said was not of this world ; strive spiritually, and by an eye of faith, to look towards your holy house, not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Kind reader, my desire is that you and all mankind, might become members of this glorious church, that is without spot or wrinkle ; but I beseech you, I exhort you by all the ties of love and friendship, not join any the branches of the church of Antichrist ; may God in heaven grant, that you may never lie down in their tents, which if you do, you will become two fold more the children of hell than before.

The time must come when there will be but one church ; do consider all the sons of Adam as one family, and that this family has but one God and Saviour, and no more, and remember these do not need the assistance of any mortal to save souls ;—

furthermore, the old maxim is, rendered to all their due; I feel conscious to myself that I have given to the devil and his tubthumping priesthood, no more than their due. Though this work may be grating to their ears, and unpleasant to their feelings.

A little while more say they, and our warfare is ended—I hope so, see Daniel Merrill's gospel church defended, page 206—and our reproach wiped away; (but not very soon) they encourage one another; endure hardness as good soldiers of Jesus Christ, through a few more conflicts, (say they) and you shall be crowned with victory, with glory and honour.

Brother reader, by a certain impulse I was moved to begin this work in September last, and have wrote by piece meals, mornings, stormy days, and Sundays, notwithstanding a multiplicity of business, of the most vexatious kind; all of which tended to discompose my mind, and a want of education has been a great bar in doing this interesting subject justice.—But through kind Providence I have

done what I could to inform the world of the conduct and behaviour of those militant churches, and to the public I cheerfully commit it, as it is, beseeching the God of Abraham, that he would cause it to be as a message from himself to his misguided children; (though it is addressed to the liberal freethinkers of our age,) and that he will give them more fully to behold that seed of Abraham, in whom all the families of the earth are to be blessed, and more perfectly to hear and obey that prophet of whom Moses in the law did write; finally dearly beloved brother mortals, farewell, be wise, be of good cheer, be perfect, be of one mind; keep the gift of God in view, (which is Christ,) and the gift of God will keep you;—live in peace, and may the God of peace be with you, and guide you in the way of truth, is the desire of your unworthy friend and philanthropist.

JEREMIAH ODELL.

Manchester, Vt. May 29, 1821.

C c 2

Mode and manner of excommunicating a member from the Mother Church, or church of Rome, *extracted from Laurence Sterne's work, entitled, life and opinions of Tristram Shandy, which is as follows:—*

“By the authority of God Almighty, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, and of the undefiled Virgin Mary, mother and patroness of our Saviour, and of all the celestial virtues, angels, archangels, thrones, dominions, powers, cherubims and seraphims, and of all the holy patriarchs, prophets, and of all the apostles and evangelists, and of all the holy innocents, who, in the sight of the Holy Lamb, are found worthy to sing the new song of the holy martyrs and holy confessors, and of the holy virgins, and of all the saints together, with the holy and elect of God,—May, he,” (Obadiah) “be damn'd.”—“We excommunicate and anathematize him; and from the thresholds of the holy church of God Almighty, we sequester him, that he may be tormented, disposed, and delivered over with Dathan and Abiram, and with those who say un-

to the Lord God, “depart from us, we desire none of thy ways.” And as fire is quenched with water, so let the light of him be put out for evermore, unless it shall repent him,” (Obadiah,) of, &c. “and make satisfaction!” (for the, &c.) “Amen.”

“May the Father who created man, curse him.—May the Son who suffered for us curse him!—May the Holy Ghost who was given to us in baptism, curse him!” (Obadiah,)—May the holy cross which Christ, for our salvation, triumphing over his enemies, ascended, curse him!

“May the holy and eternal Virgin Mary, mother of God, curse him!—May St. Michael, the advocate of holy souls, curse him!—May all the angels and archangels, principalities, and powers, and all the heavenly armies, curse him!—May the praiseworthy multitude of patriarchs and prophets, curse him!—May St. John the Præcursor, and St. John the Baptist, and St. Peter, and St. Paul, and St. Andrew, and all other Christ's Apostles, together curse him! And may the rest of his disciples and four-

evangelists, who by their preaching converted the universal world, and may the holy and wonderful company of martyrs and confessors, who by their holy works are found pleasing to God Almighty, curse him!" (Obadiah.)

"May the holy choir of holy virgins, who for the honour of Christ have despised the things of the world, damn him!—May all the saints who, from the beginning of the world to everlasting ages, are found to be beloved of God, damn him!—May the heavens and earth, and all the holy things remaining therein, damn him," (Obadiah) "or her, &c.—May he, (Obadiah) be damn'd wherever he be,—whether in the house or the stables, the garden or the field, or the highway, or in the path, or in the wood, or in the water, or in the church!—May he be cursed in living, in dying!—May he be cursed in eating & drinking; in being hungry, in being thirsty, in fasting, in sleeping, in slumbering, in walking, in standing, in sitting, in lying, in working, in

resting, in p*****, in s*****, and in blood-letting!

"May he (Obadiah) be cursed in all the faculties of his body!—May he be cursed inwardly and outwardly!—May he be cursed in the hair of his head!—May he be cursed in his brains, and in his vertex, in his temples, in his forehead, in his ears, in his eye-brows, in his cheeks, in his jaw-bone, in his nostrils, in his fore-teeth and grinders, in his lips, in his throat, in his shoulders, in his wrists, in his arms, in his fingers!

"May he be damn'd in his mouth, in his breast, in his heart and purtenance, down to the very stomach!

"May he be cursed in his reins, & in his groin, in his thighs, in his genitals, in his hips, in his knees, his legs and feet, and toe-nails!

"May he be cursed in all the joints and articulations of the members, from the top of his head to the sole of his foot! May there be no soundness in him!

"May the Son of the living God, with all the glory of his majesty, curse him!—May heaven, with all

the powers which move therein, rise up against him, curse and damn him," (Obadiah) "unless he repent and make satisfaction! Amen. So be it, so be it. Amen."

First vol. page 197.—This is the source and foundation of all profane swearing; the great militant church is the origin.

ERRATA.

Page 10, line 13, from top, for *or divines*, read *our divines*.

" 14, l. 22, for *passing* read *pressing*.

" 17, l. 3, for *is* read *as*.

" 40, l. 14, for *Simon Magus* read *Mosheim*.

" 41, l. 23, for *as sect* read *translated sect*.

" 62, l. 8, for *lawful* read *lawless*.

" 93, l. 13, for *nor* read *now*.

" 98, l. 14, for *shaped* read *spake*.

" 107, l. 14, for *Camp*. read *Confession*.

" 116, l. 18, for *bubbling* read *babbling*.

" 145, l. 13, for *so here and so there* read *lo here and lo there*.

" " l. 18, for *it is I* read *is it I*.

" 156, l. 3, omit the word *like* before *water*.

" 158, l. 16, for *howling* read *owling*.

Page 194, line 11, for *sedition* read *seduction*.

" 205, l. 28, for *drove men* read *drown men*.

" 207, l. 20, for *Crepan's* read *Cre-scens*.

" 209, l. 29, for *lying* read *dying*.

* 217, l. 8, for *leave* read *peace*.